



COVER A

MICHAEL TURNER'S
SOULFIRE
CHAOS REIGN
BEGINNINGS



SOULFIRE CREATED BY
MICHAEL TURNER

SOULFIRE: CHAOS REIGN
BEGINNINGS

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SOULFIRE: CHAOS REIGN™ Vol. 1 Beginnings Issue

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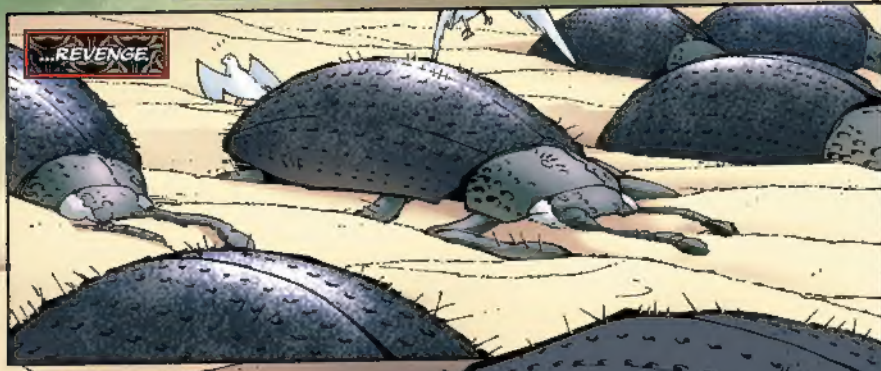
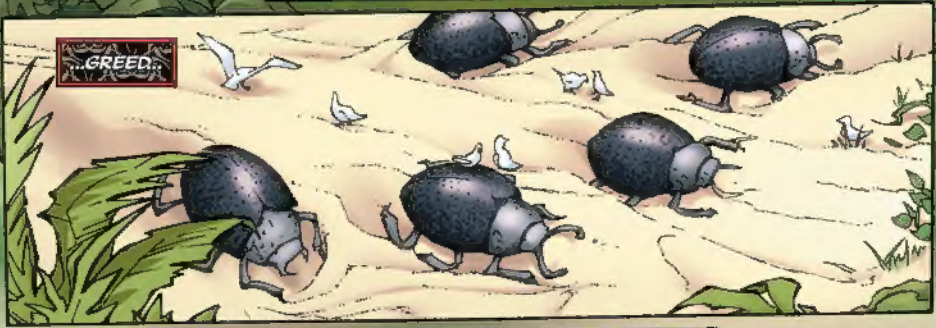
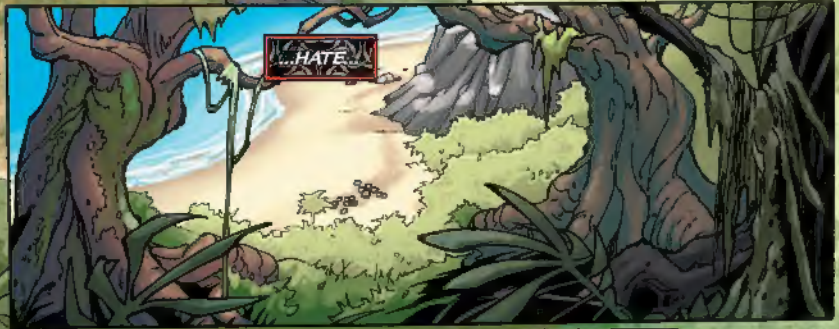
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DRIVING FORCES OF
CREATURES LIVING IN
A NATURAL WORLD.

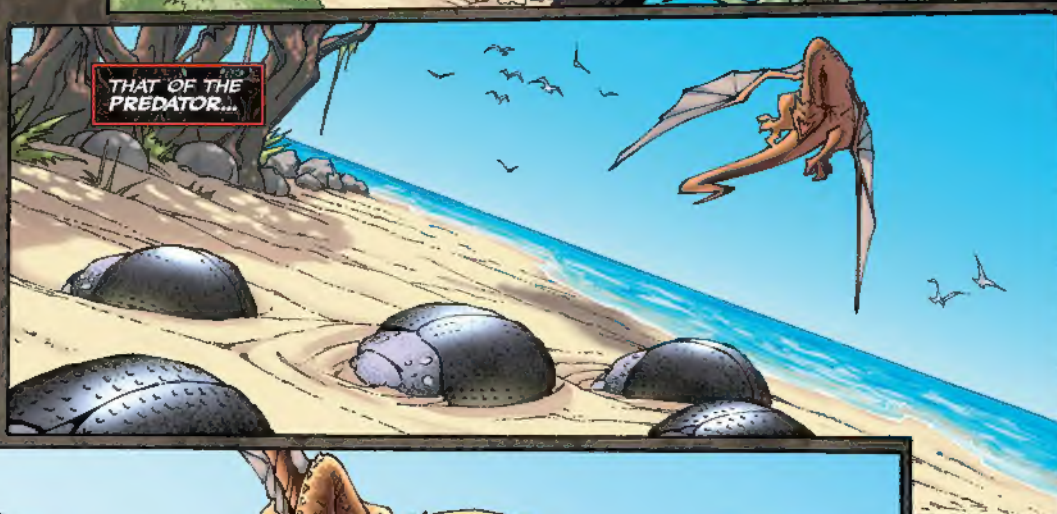
10000 YEARS AGO



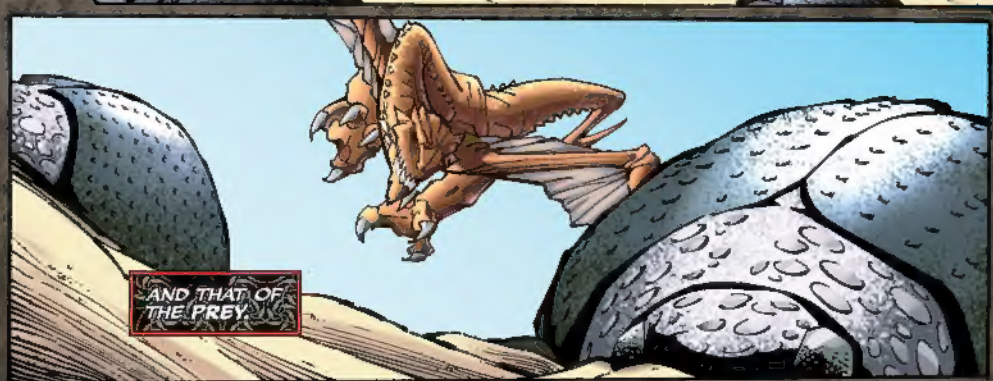
BUT HUNGER...
NOW THAT IS A
PRIMAL URGE.



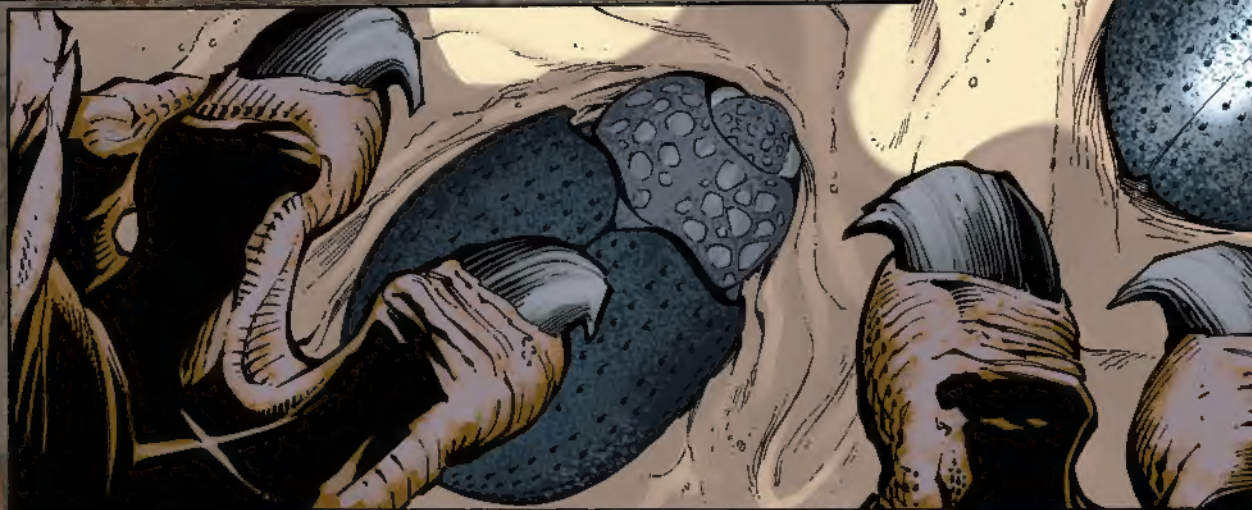
AT ITS CORE NATURE
ONLY ALLOWS FOR TWO
ROLES TO BE PLAYED



THAT OF THE
PREDATOR...



AND THAT OF
THE PREY



FOR ONE CANNOT
EXIST WITHOUT
THE OTHER



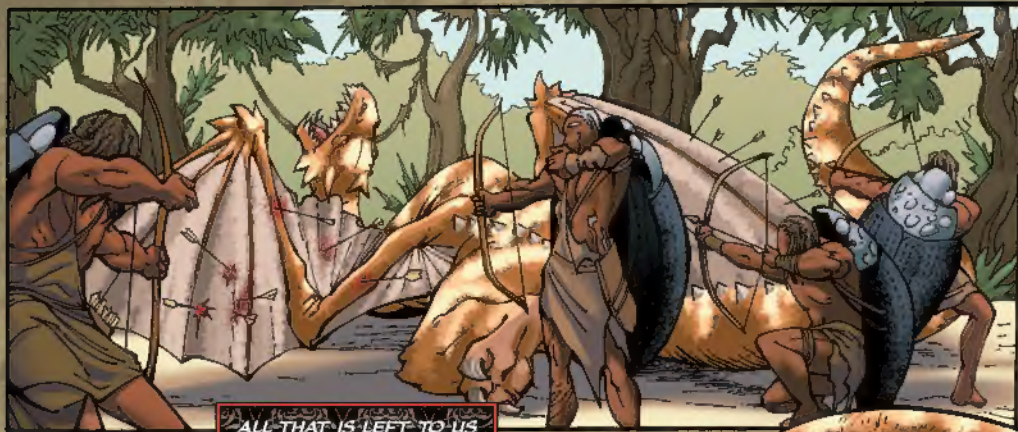
IN THE END, EVERY
CREATURE IS
ASSURED ONLY ONE
SIMPLE TRUTH...



THAT IT WILL
EVENTUALLY
PLAY EACH PART.



ALWAYS KNOWING
THAT THE LAST
ROUND WILL BE
AS PREY.



ALL THAT IS LEFT TO US
TO DECIDE IS WHETHER
WE WILL MEET OUR
DEATH WITH HONOR.



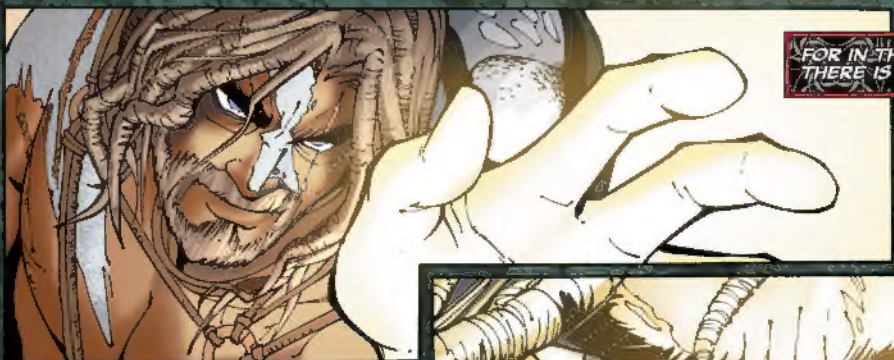
THE SAME HONOR WITH
WHICH WE HANDED OUT
DEATH TO OTHERS



THE TRUE PREDATOR DOES NOT TAKE JOY IN THE DEMISE OF ANOTHER LIFE. HE DOES NOT RELISH IN DELIVERING THAT FATAL BLOW.

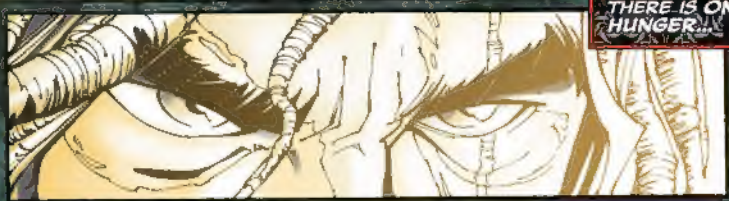
BOTH SIDES KNOW THAT THIS IS BUT A PROCESS—AND A NECESSARY ONE AT THAT.

THE PREY IS RESPECTED AS AN EQUAL FORCE OF ENERGY THAT WILL BRING LIFE THROUGH ITS DEATH.



FOR IN THE HUNT, THERE IS NO SPORT.

THERE IS NO THRILL OF THE CHASE.



THERE IS ONLY HUNGER.

...AND SURVIVAL.

TO BE
CONTINUED
IN...

SOULFIRE#0
CHAOS REIGN



#0

OF 3
COVER A

MICHAEL TURNER'S SOULFIRE CHAOS REIGN



TP
B
E

SOULFIRE CREATED BY
MICHAEL TURNER

SOULFIRE, CHAOS REIGN™
ISSUE ZERO

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SOULFIRE, CHAOS REIGN™ Vol. 1 Issue 0

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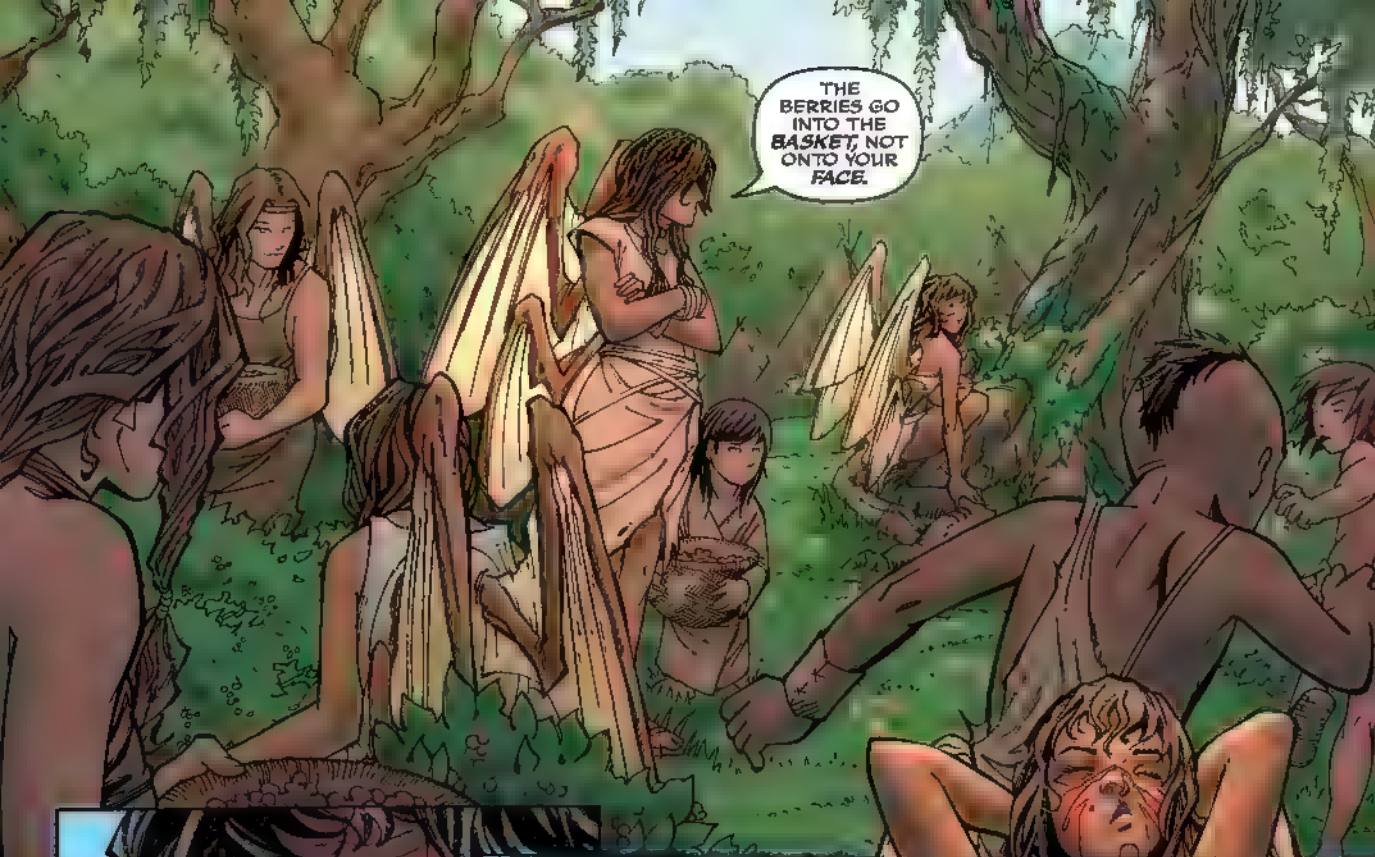
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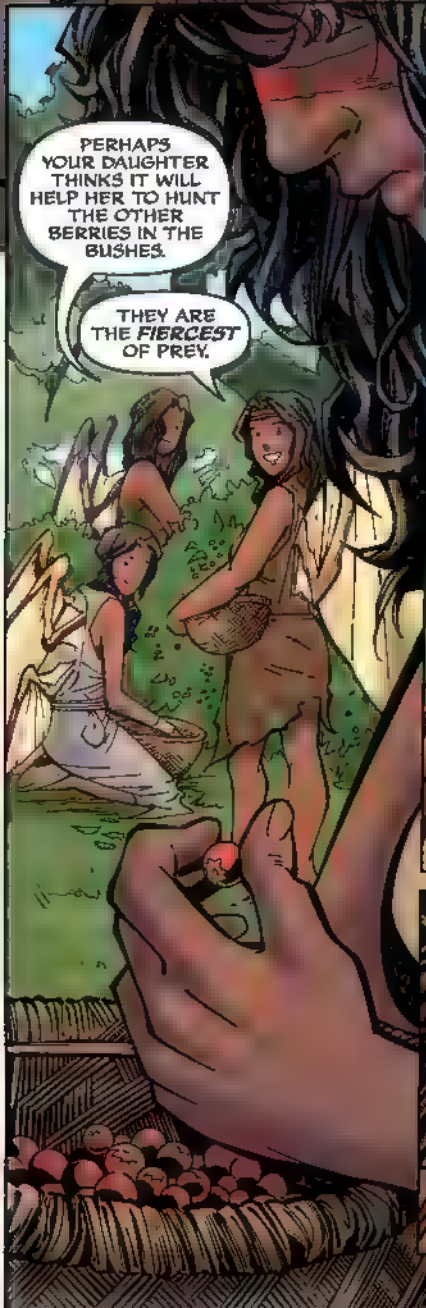
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MIYA...
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?



THE BERRIES GO INTO THE BASKET, NOT ONTO YOUR FACE.



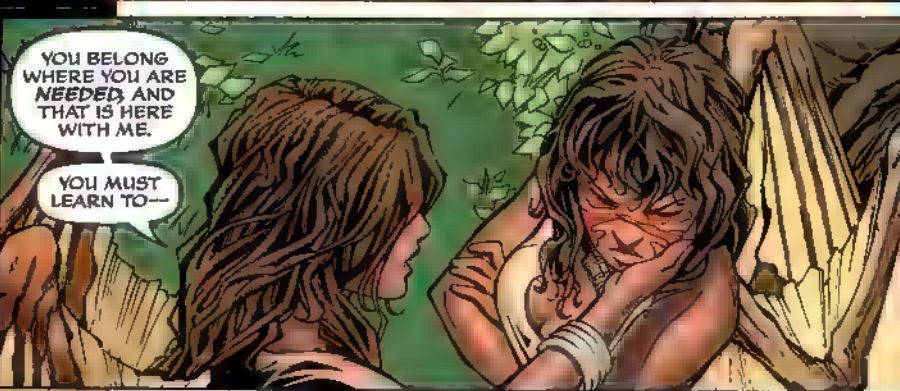
PERHAPS YOUR DAUGHTER THINKS IT WILL HELP HER TO HUNT THE OTHER BERRIES IN THE BUSHES.

THEY ARE THE FIERCEST OF PREY.



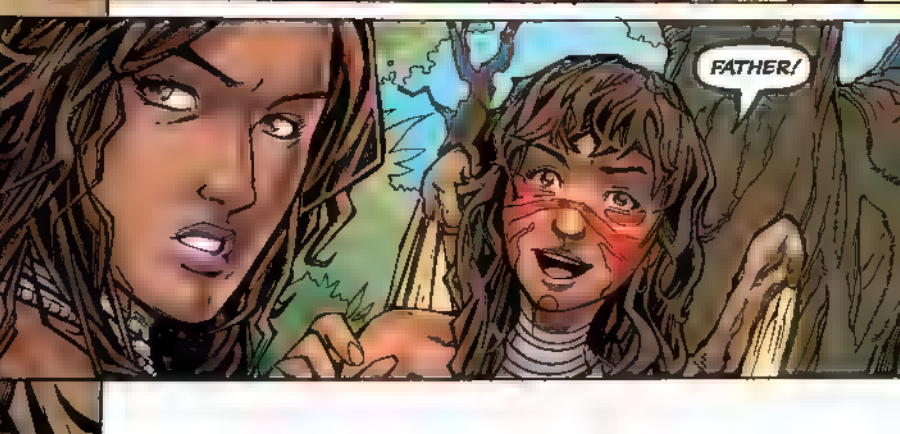
I'LL SHOW YOU FIERCE.

PICKING BERRIES IS CHILDREN'S WORK. I AM NOT A CHILD. I AM A HUNTER. I BELONG OUT WITH THE OTHERS.



YOU BELONG WHERE YOU ARE NEEDED, AND THAT IS HERE WITH ME.

YOU MUST LEARN TO--



FATHER!



THAT'S THE
BIGGEST DRAGON
I EVER SAW. WAS IT
STRONG? DID IT PUT
UP MUCH OF A FIGHT?
DID YOU KILL IT,
FATHER?

IT BATTLED
VALIANTLY AND
OUR PRIZE DID NOT
COME WITHOUT
ITS PRICE.

TOVAK WAS
LOST TO THE
SPIRIT OF THE
HUNT.





IT IS GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK.

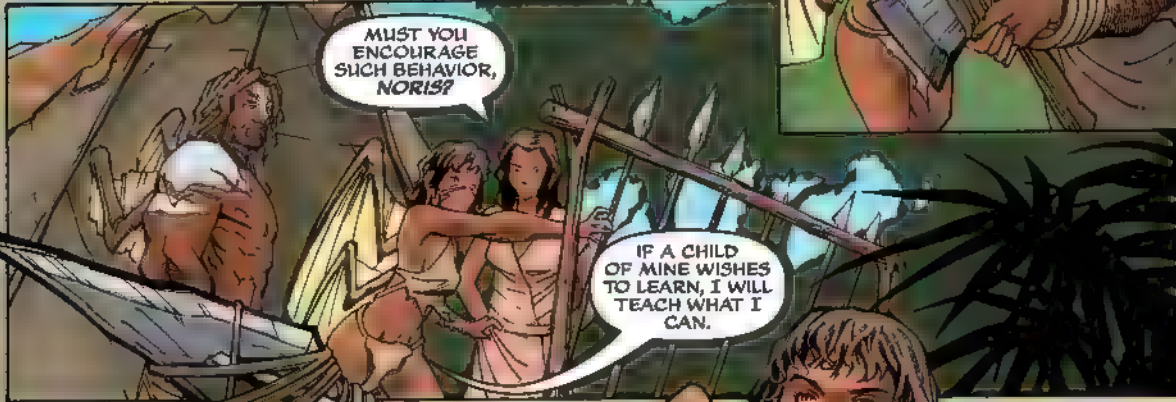
IT IS GOOD TO BE BACK.

I WISH I HAD BEEN THERE. I COULD HAVE FELL THE BEAST WITH ONE SWING OF YOUR AXE, FATHER.



THE AXE DOESN'T SERVE TO YOUR STRENGTHS, MIYA. YOUR SKILL LIES WITH THE PRECISION AND QUICKNESS OF THE SPEAR.

OR PERHAPS WITH NO WEAPON AT ALL.



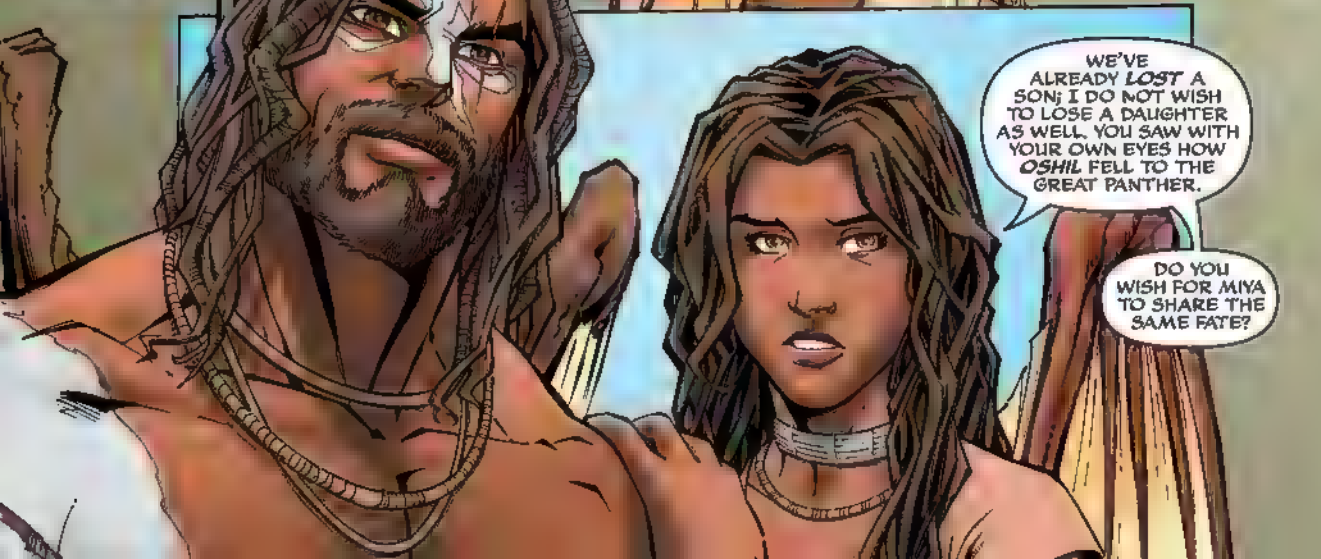
MUST YOU ENCOURAGE SUCH BEHAVIOR, NORIS?

IF A CHILD OF MINE WISHES TO LEARN, I WILL TEACH WHAT I CAN.



SHE IS OUR DAUGHTER... NOT OUR SON.

THE PREDATORS OF THIS WORLD DO NOT DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE WARRIOR AND WOMEN, SO WHY SHOULD WE?



WE'VE ALREADY LOST A SON; I DO NOT WISH TO LOSE A DAUGHTER AS WELL. YOU SAW WITH YOUR OWN EYES HOW OSHIL FELL TO THE GREAT PANTHER.

DO YOU WISH FOR MIYA TO SHARE THE SAME FATE?



...AND WE
PRAISE THE SPIRIT
OF THE DRAGON
FOR GIVING US
ITS FLESH.

ROK!

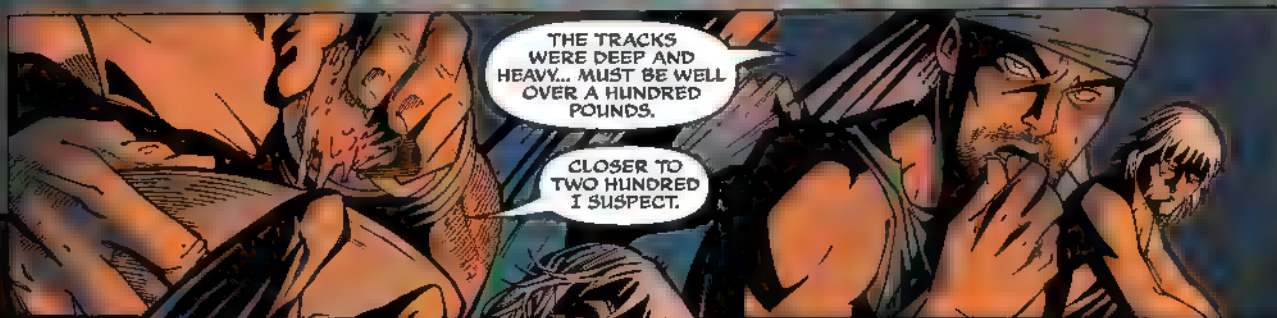
AND WE
PRAISE THE
SPIRIT OF TOVAK
FOR HIS SACRIFICE
TO THE TRIBE.

ROK!

OUR
CELEBRATION IS
DESERVED, BROTHERS,
BUT WE MUST ALSO BE
CAUTIOUS. I AM WORRIED
FOR THE TRACKS
DISCOVERED ALONG
THE FOREST.

I HAVE
NEVER SEEN
SUCH MARKINGS
BEFORE.

NOR I. TWO-
LEGGED HOOFED
FEET THAT SEEMED TO
APPEAR AND DISAPPEAR
THROUGHOUT THE
WOODS. WHATEVER
CREATURE MADE THEM
MUST TAKE TO THE
TREES.



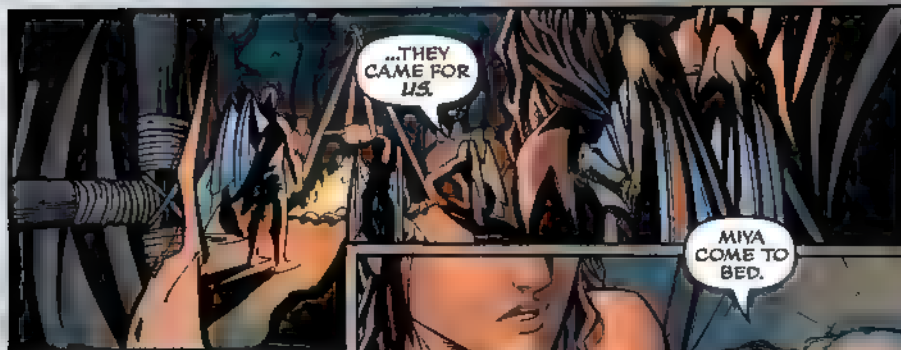
THE TRACKS
WERE DEEP AND
HEAVY... MUST BE WELL
OVER A HUNDRED
POUNDS.

CLOSER TO
TWO HUNDRED
I SUSPECT.

YEARS AGO... WHEN
I HAD FIRST JOINED THE
HUNT... WE CAME ACROSS
A VICIOUS CREATURE IN THE
FOREST. WE NEVER SAW IT WITH
OUR EYES, BUT WE HEARD IT
COMING FROM THE TREES. A
CRUNCHING AND SNARLING
SOUND, ECHOING AS IF THE
FOREST ITSELF WAS ALIVE...
AND HUNGRY.



THEY DIDN'T
COME FOR OUR
FOOD OR OUR
FLAME...

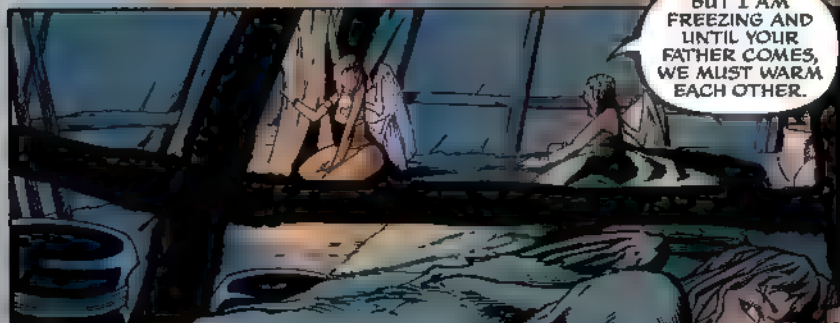


...THEY
CAME FOR
US.



MIYA
COME TO
BED.

I AM
NOT TIRED



BUT I AM
FREEZING AND
UNTIL YOUR
FATHER COMES,
WE MUST WARM
EACH OTHER.



THEY TALK
OF STRANGE
CREATURES IN
THE WOODS.

IF SUCH
STORIES WERE
MEANT FOR YOUR
EARS, YOU WOULD BE
INVITED TO SIT AT
THE FIRE WITH
THEM.

THEY SOUND
TERRIFYING.
EVEN FATHER IS
WORRIED.

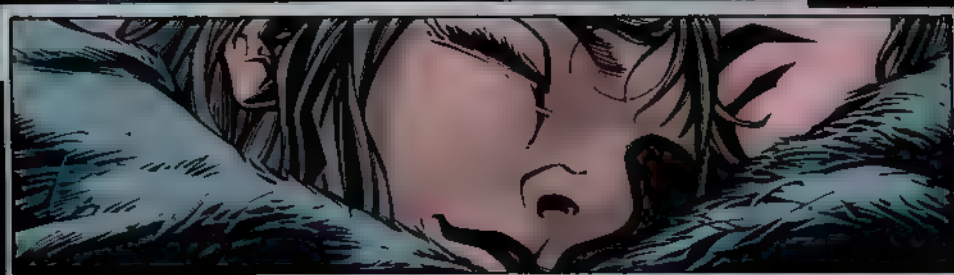


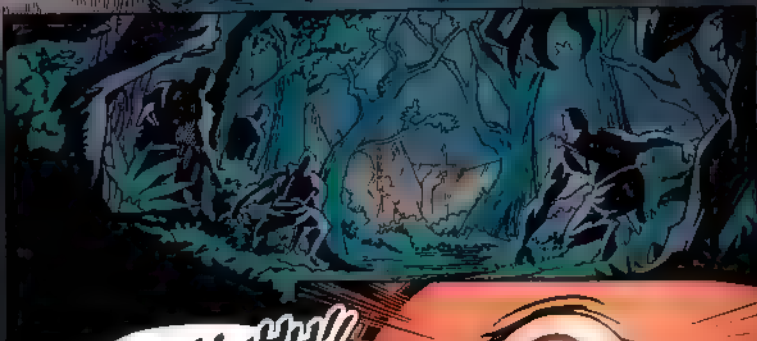
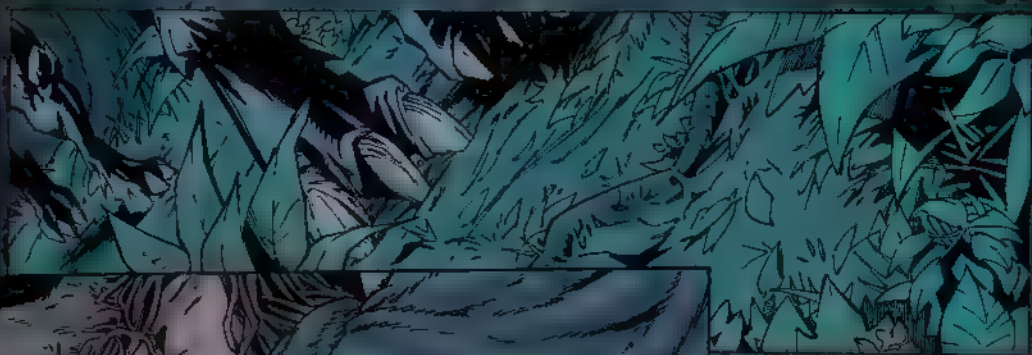
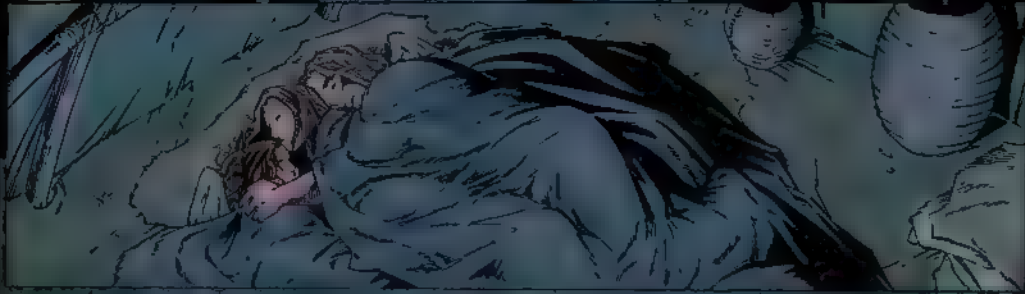
MOTHER?

YES, MIYA.

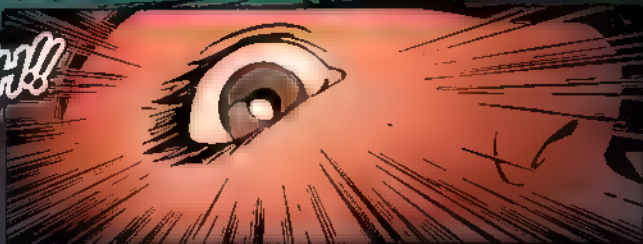
ARE YOU
NOT FRIGHTENED
OF THEM?

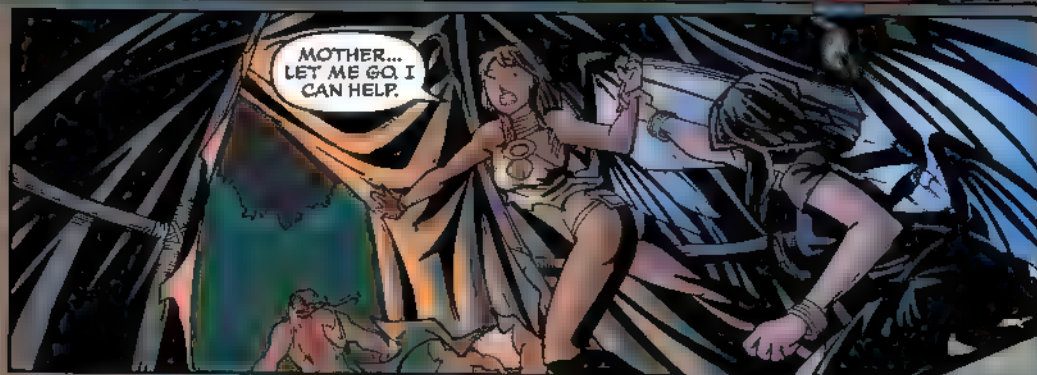
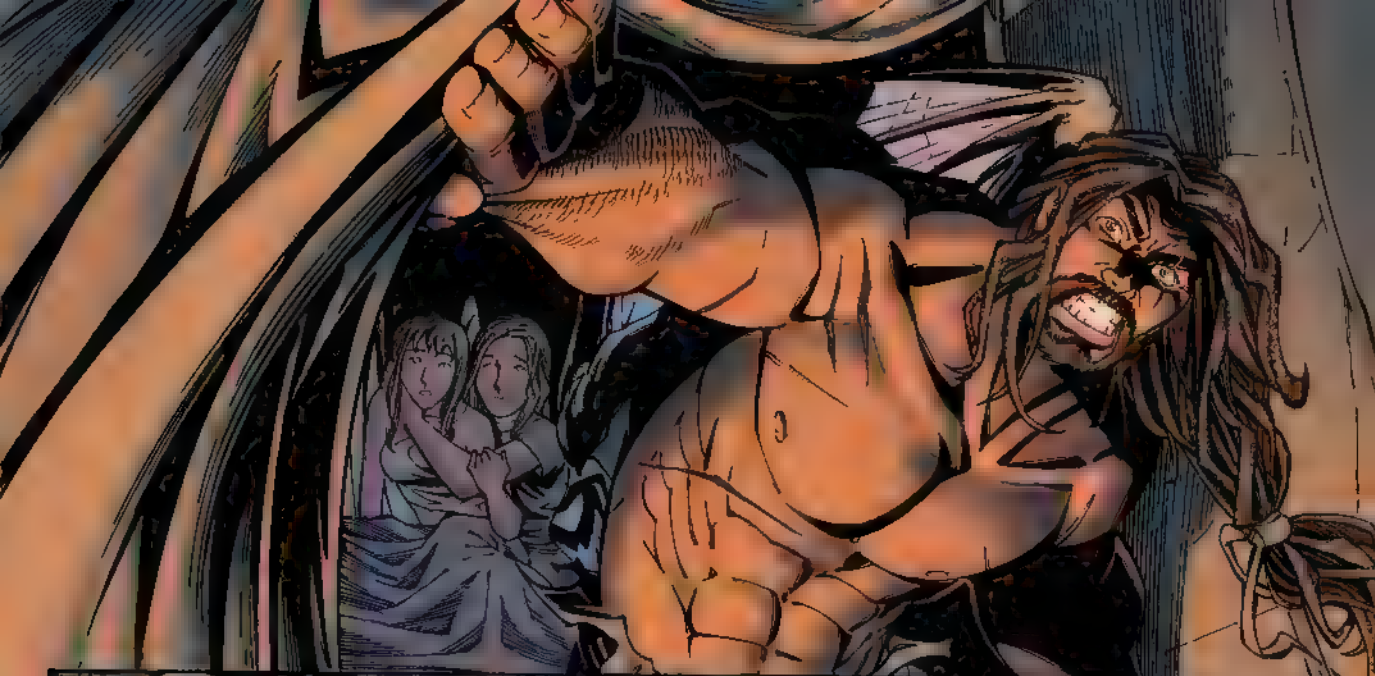
NO CREATURE
IN THIS WORLD
FRIGHTENS ME AS
LONG AS YOUR
FATHER IS
AROUND.





ACHHHHHHH!!

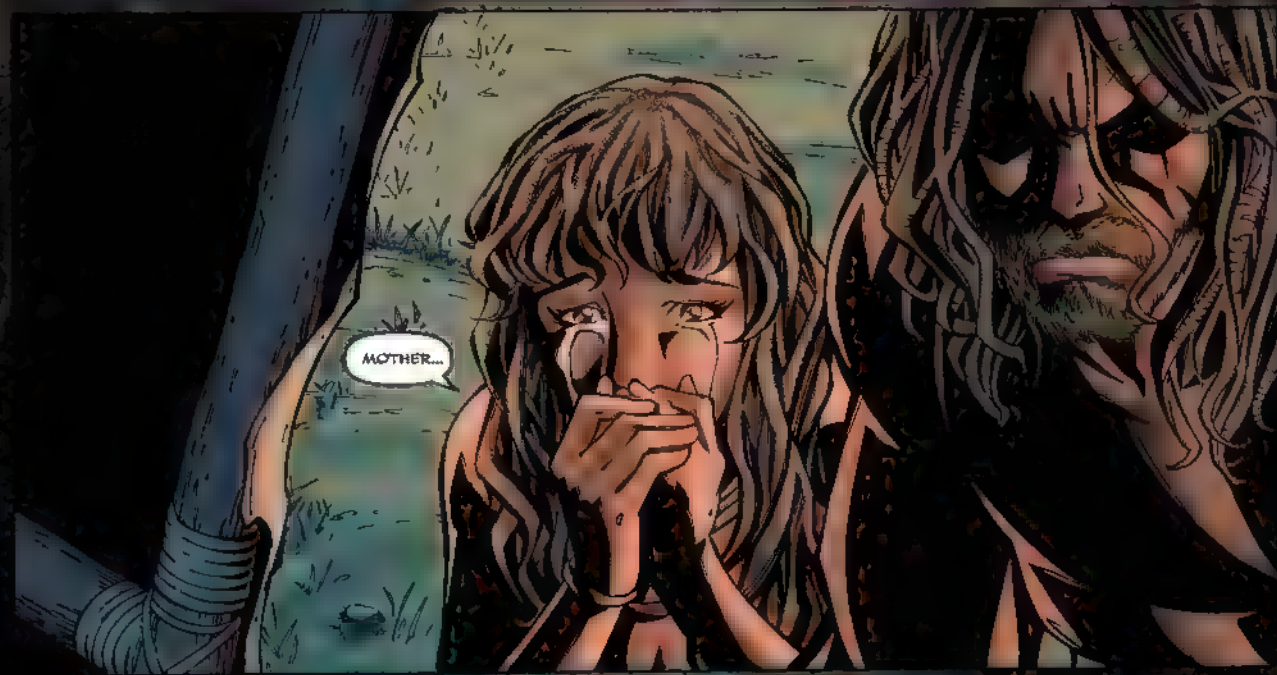
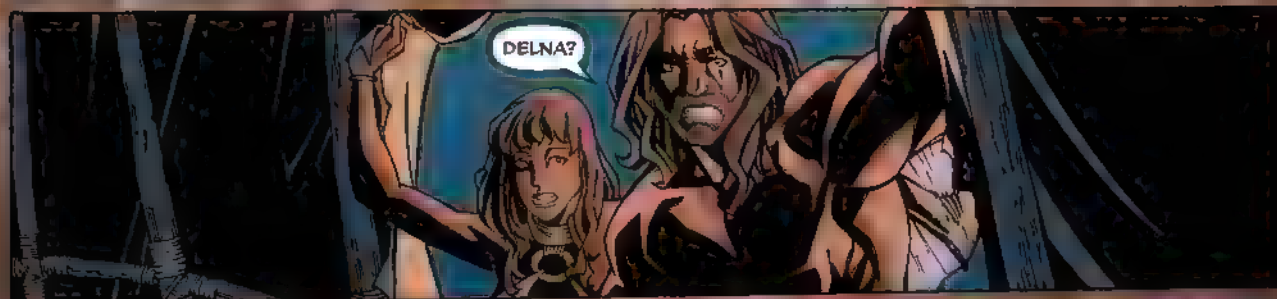
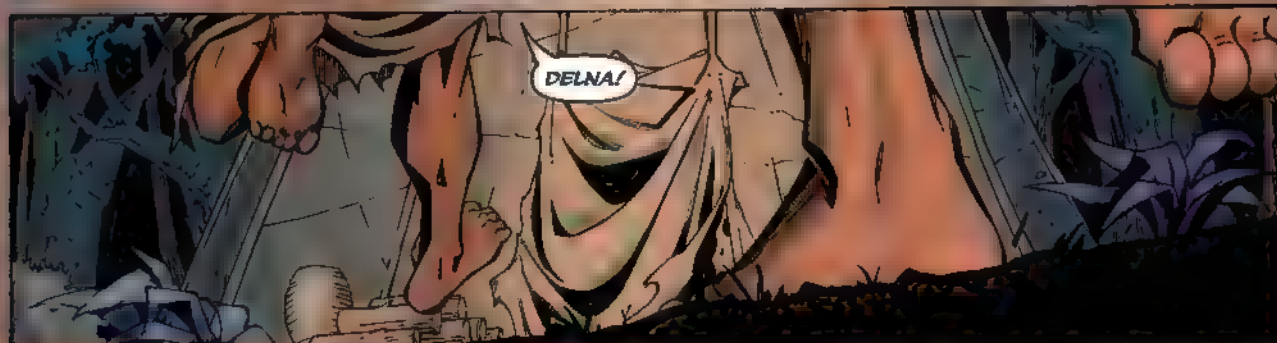






OH, NO.





THE EYES... I WOULD NEVER FORGET THOSE WICKED EYES STARING AT ME FROM THE DARKNESS.

EVEN THE FOLLOWING MORNING, I COULD FEEL THEM OUT THERE IN THE UNKNOWN... WAITING FOR ME.

BUT AS GREAT AS MY FEAR WAS, IT WAS OUTSHINED BY A STRONGER FIRE IN MY HEART. THESE BEASTS HAD TAKEN MY MOTHER, BUT THIS WAS NO HUNT FOR FOOD. THIS WAS SOMETHING ELSE.

SOMETHING EVIL.

WHEN MY BROTHER WAS KILLED, WE ACCEPTED IT AS PART OF LIFE. IN THE BATTLE OF SURVIVAL, THE SPIRIT OF THE PANTHER HAD WON OVER THE SPIRIT OF OSHIL.

BUT WE WOULD NOT ACCEPT THIS LOSS. WE WOULD NOT SIMPLY MOVE ON. WE COULD NOT. WE HAD DISCOVERED WHAT IT MEANT TO HATE. THEY HAD TAKEN MEMBERS OF OUR TRIBE—MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY.

AND WE WERE GOING TO GET THEM BACK.



#1

OF 3
COVER A

MICHAEL TURNER'S
SOULFIRE
CHAOS REIGN





#1

OF 3
COVER B

MICHAEL TURNER'S
SOULFIRE
CHAOS REIGN



SOULFIRE CREATED BY
MICHAEL TURNER

SOULFIRE CHAOS REIGN
ISSUE ONE OF THREE

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URS IS A WORLD
FILLED WITH DANGER
AND CONFLICT.





NORMALLY, WE WOULD CHANGE
OUR DIRECTION TO AVOID SUCH
A CONFRONTATION AS WE
SEARCHED FOR FOOD.

FOR THE SABRE IS
ONE OF THE MIGHTIEST
BEASTS IN THE JUNGLE.



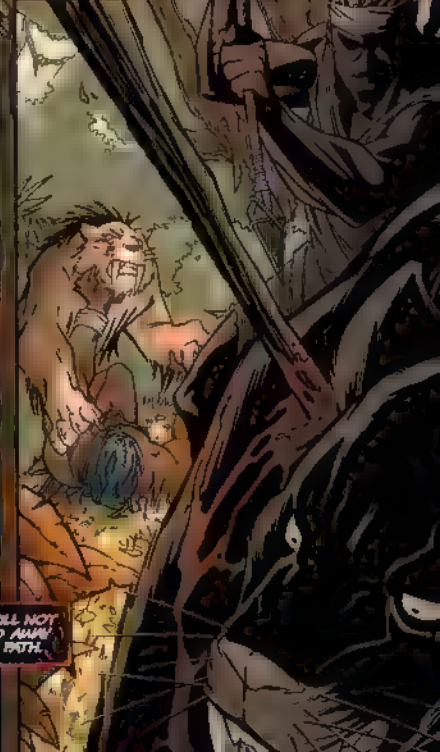
BUT WE ARE NOT
HUNTERS TODAY.

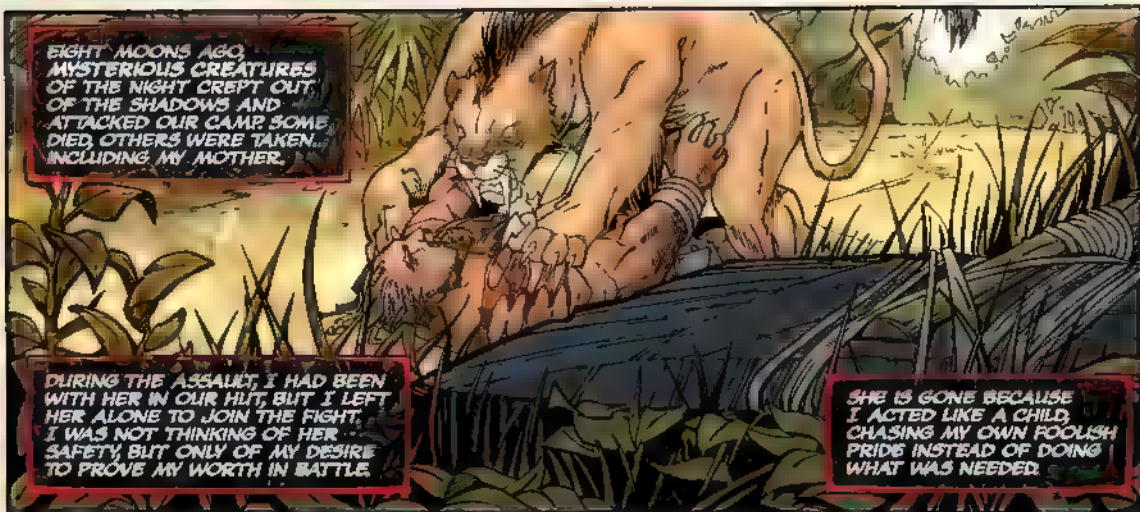


WE ARE WARRIORS.



AND WE WILL NOT
BE TURNED AWAY
FROM OUR PATH.





EIGHT MOONS AGO, MYSTERIOUS CREATURES OF THE NIGHT CREEPT OUT OF THE SHADOWS AND ATTACKED OUR CAMP. SOME DIED, OTHERS WERE TAKEN, INCLUDING MY MOTHER.

DURING THE ASSAULT, I HAD BEEN WITH HER IN OUR HUT, BUT I LEFT HER ALONE TO JOIN THE FIGHT. I WAS NOT THINKING OF HER SAFETY, BUT ONLY OF MY DESIRE TO PROVE MY WORTH IN BATTLE.

SHE IS GONE BECAUSE I ACTED LIKE A CHILD, CHASING MY OWN FOOLISH PRIDE INSTEAD OF DOING WHAT WAS NEEDED.



I DO NOT KNOW IF MY MOTHER IS STILL ALIVE, BUT I WILL NOT STOP UNTIL I FIND HER.

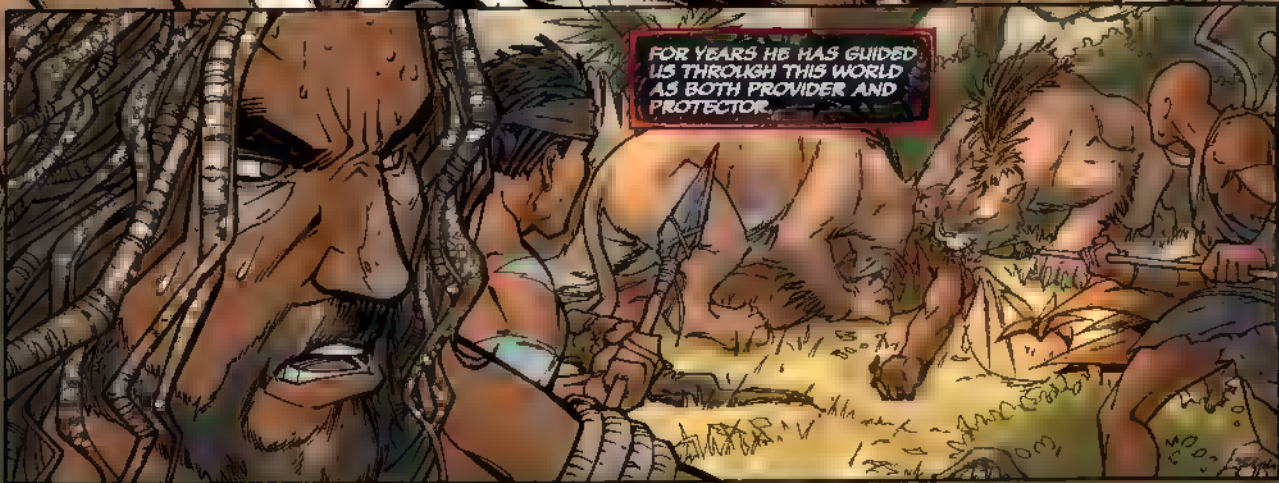
AND NEITHER WILL MY FATHER.



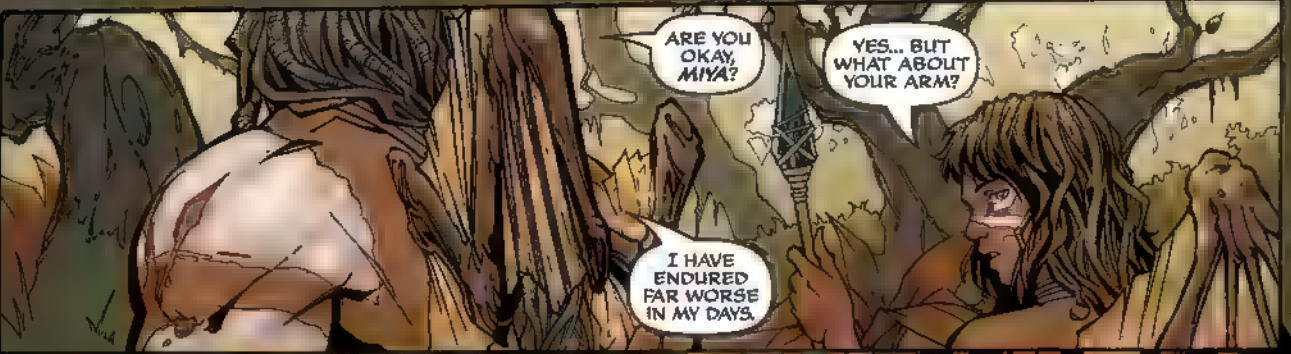
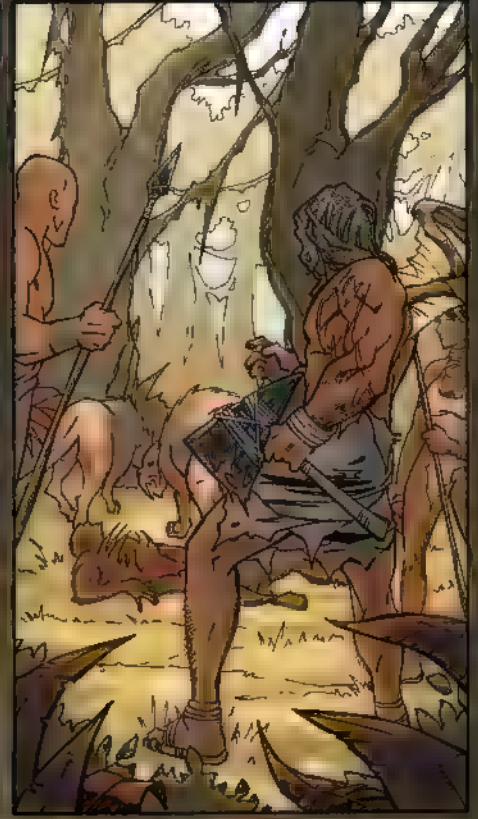
RAWWWHR!



TO THE OTHERS, HE IS
KNOWN AS NORIS...
THE GREATEST HUNTER
IN ALL OF THE TRIBE.



FOR YEARS HE HAS GUIDED
US THROUGH THIS WORLD
AS BOTH PROVIDER AND
PROTECTOR.



OUR DECISION HAS COST LIVES. MORE THAN JUST POOR VANDOR.

I DOUBT WE SHALL EVER SEE OUR TRIBE AGAIN. FOR IN DECIDING TO GO IN SEARCH OF OUR ATTACKERS, WE HAVE ALMOST CERTAINLY SEALED THEIR DOOM. WITHOUT THE SKILLS OF HUNTERS LIKE MY FATHER, ESHA AND RANE, HOW LONG CAN THE TRIBE HOPE TO SURVIVE?

AND WHAT OF US? WILL ANY OF US— INCLUDING MY FATHER— BE STRONG ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND THE PERILS THAT LURK WITHIN THE JUNGLE?



FATHER...
THERE IS
SOMETHING
I DO NOT
UNDERSTAND.

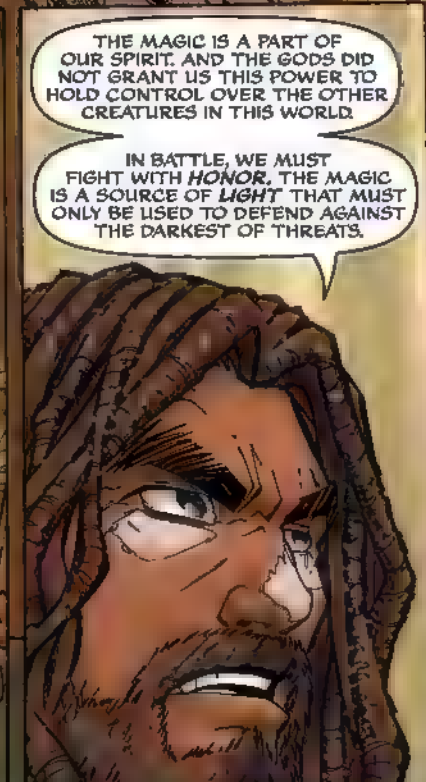
WHAT IS
THAT?

IF YOU WERE
ABLE TO USE YOUR
MAGIC TO SCARE OFF
THE REMAINING
SABRES, WHY DID YOU
NOT USE IT TO DEFEAT
THE SABRE THAT
ATTACKED YOU?

THAT IS NOT
THE **PURPOSE**
OF THE MAGIC,
MIYA.



NOT EVEN IF
IT WOULD HAVE
MEANT **SAVING**
VANDOR?



THE MAGIC IS A PART OF
OUR SPIRIT, AND THE GODS DID
NOT GRANT US THIS POWER TO
HOLD CONTROL OVER THE OTHER
CREATURES IN THIS WORLD.

IN BATTLE, WE MUST
FIGHT WITH **HONOR**. THE MAGIC
IS A SOURCE OF **LIGHT** THAT MUST
ONLY BE USED TO DEFEND AGAINST
THE DARKEST OF THREATS.



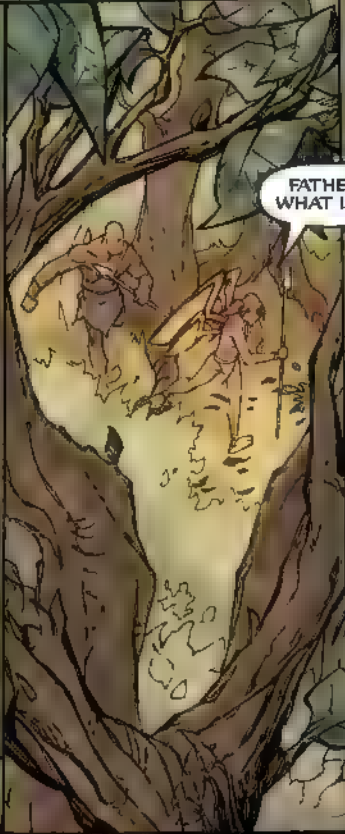
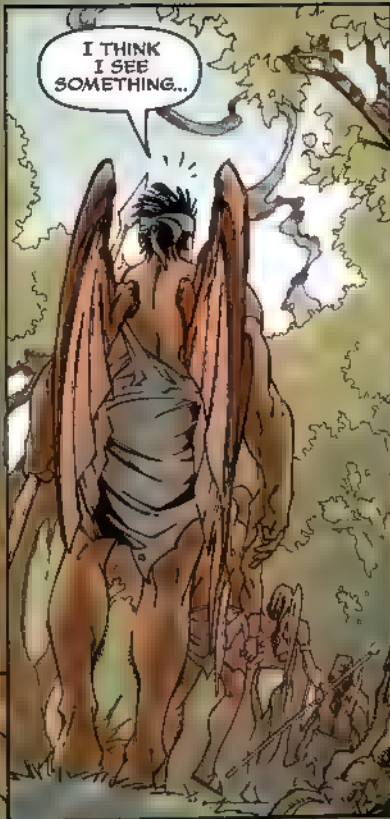
LIKE THOSE
THAT TOOK
MOTHER?

YES.

SO IF WE
FIND THEM, WILL
YOU USE YOUR
MAGIC AGAINST
THEM?



WHEN WE
FIND THEM...
YOU CAN BE
SURE OF IT.





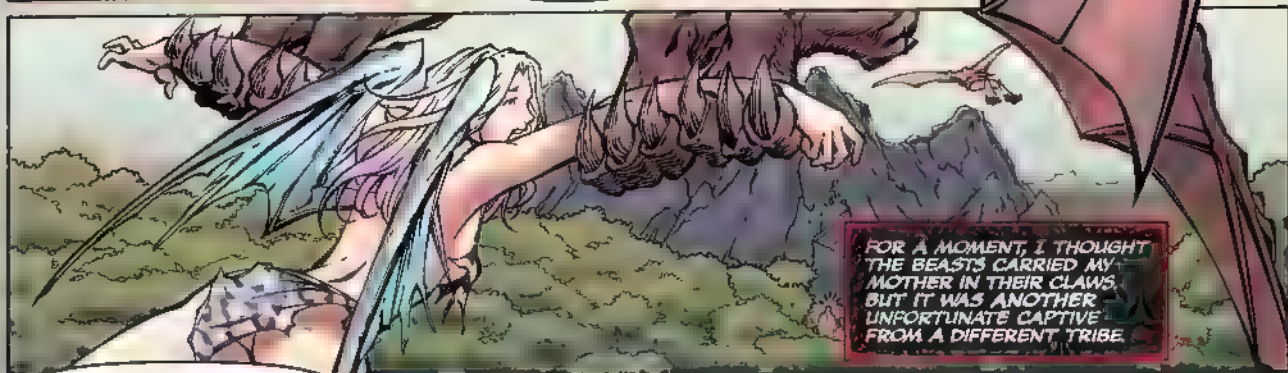
I DON'T
KNOW



THERE... IN
THE SKY.

WHAT
IS IT?

THE
DEMONS WHO
ATTACKED US IN
THE NIGHT.

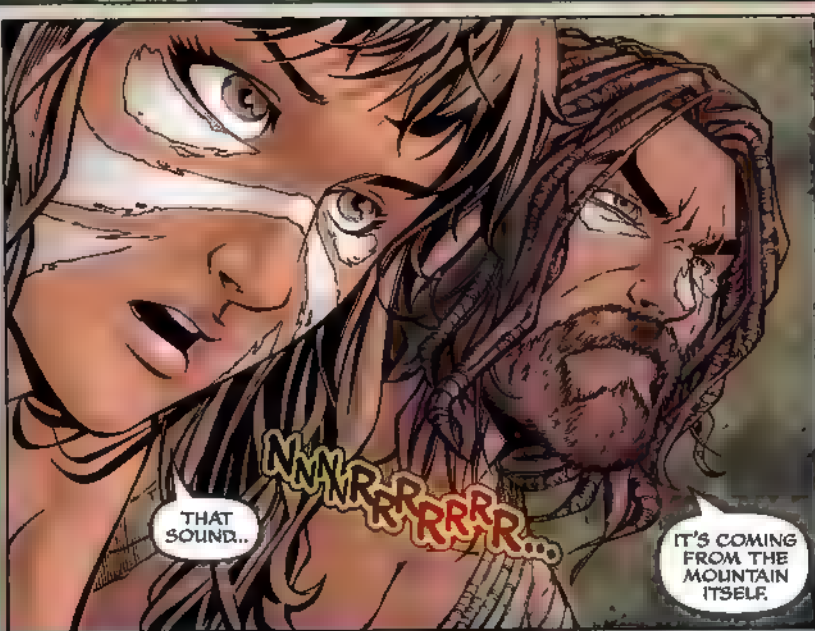


FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT
THE BEASTS CARRIED MY
MOTHER IN THEIR CLAWS.
BUT IT WAS ANOTHER
UNFORTUNATE CAPTIVE
FROM A DIFFERENT TRIBE.



IT DOES NOT MAKE
SENSE. IF THEY WERE AFTER
SLAVES, WHY STEAL AWAY THE
WOMEN AND LEAVE THE MEN
BEHIND?

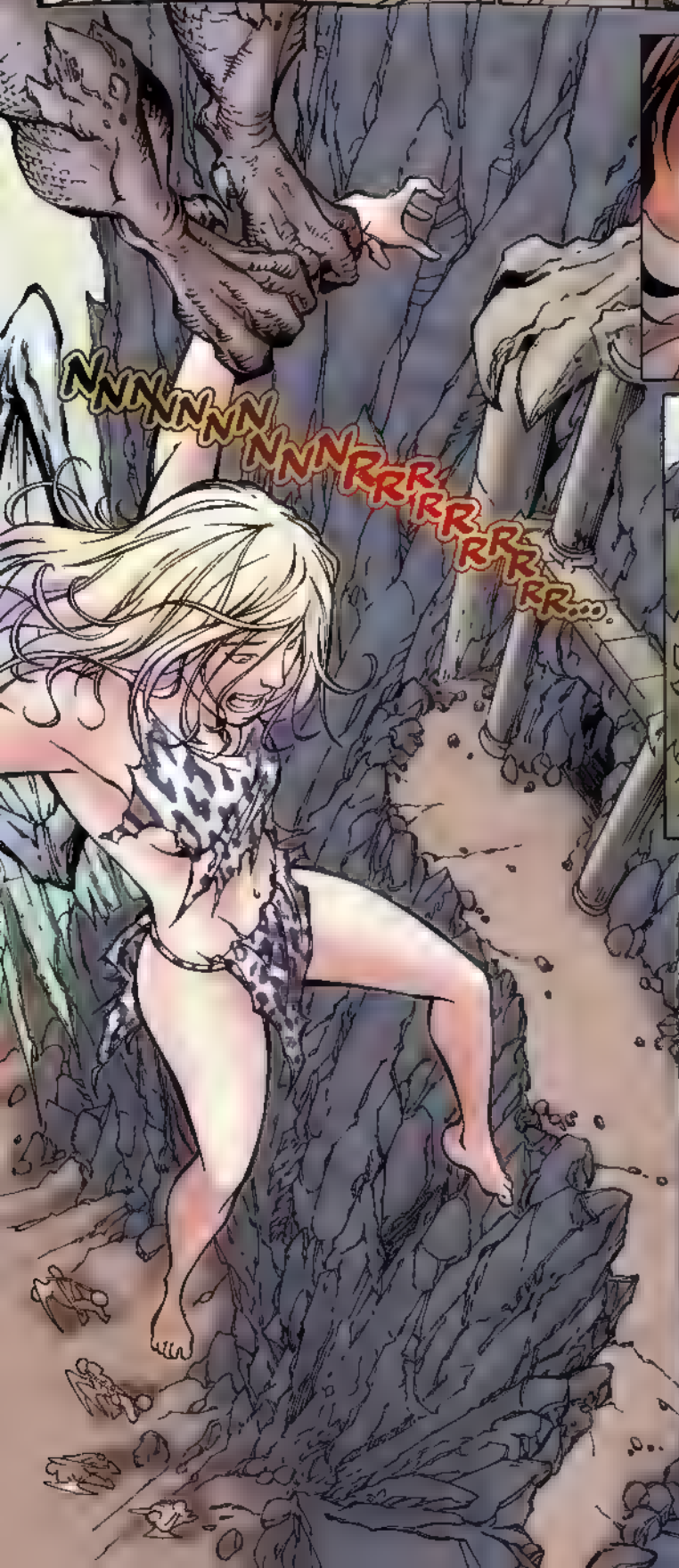
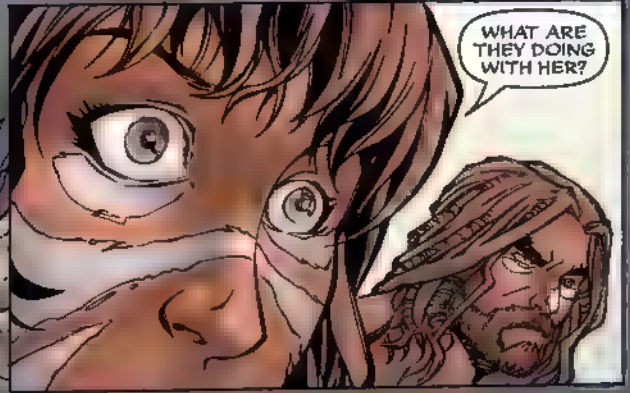
MAYBE THEY
ARE INTERESTED
IN BREEDING
SLAVES RATHER
THAN STEALING
THEM.



THAT
SOUND...

MMRRRRR...

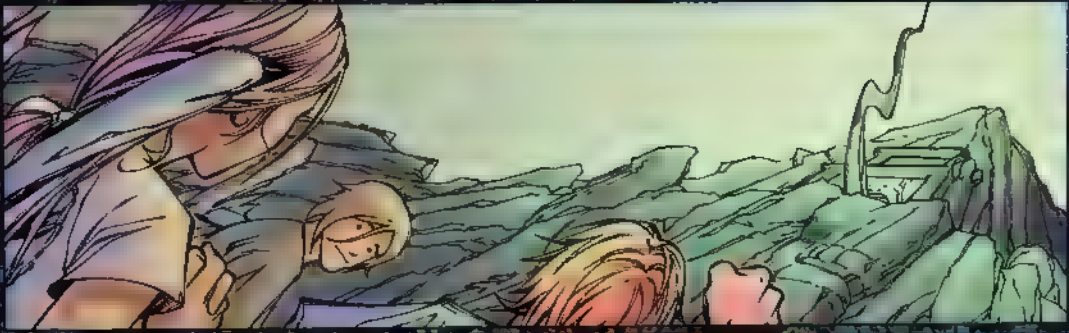
IT'S COMING
FROM THE
MOUNTAIN
ITSELF.





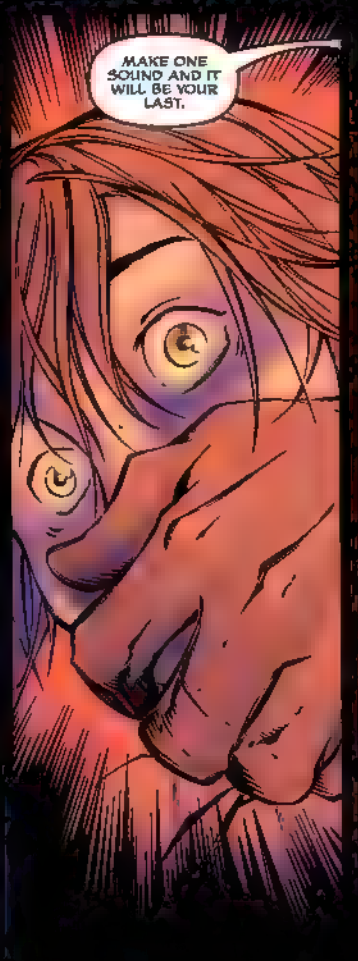
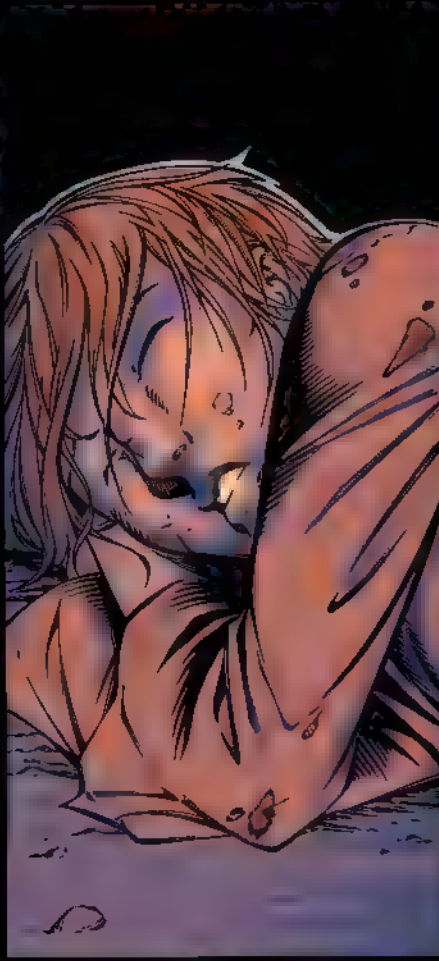
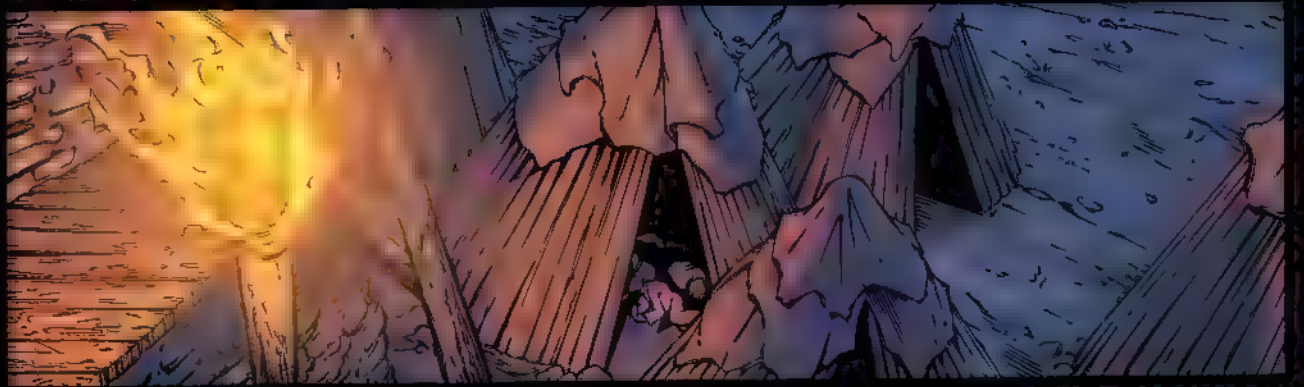
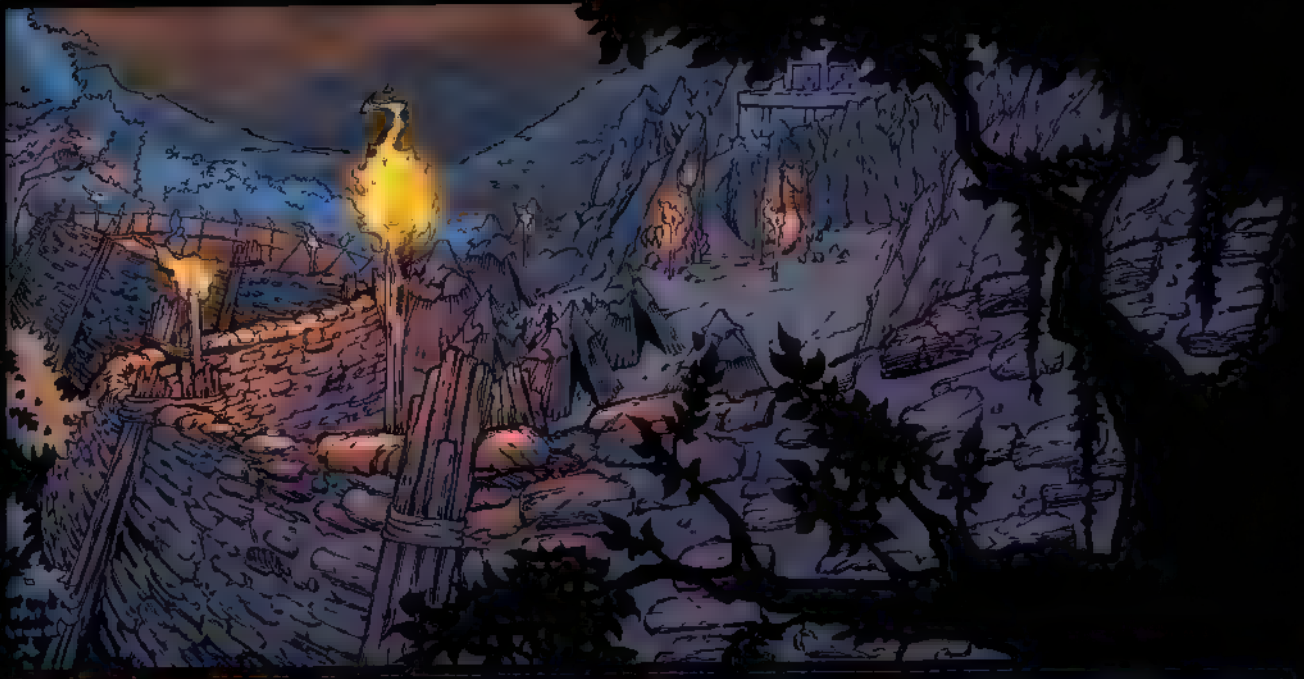
AAAAAAAA!!!

HHHHMMMMRRRRRRR!!!



WHAT NOW?

WHAT CAN WE DO? MY DELNA AND THE OTHERS MUST BE BEHIND THOSE WALLS, AND WE CAME TO GET THEM BACK.





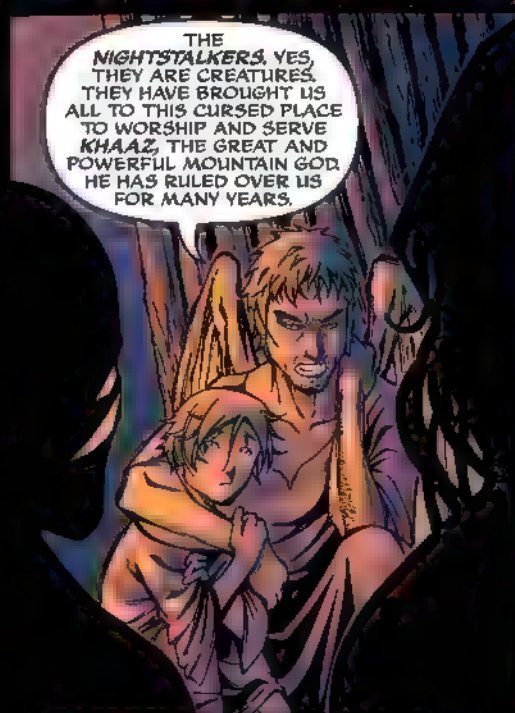
WHO...
WHO ARE
YOU?

WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE?

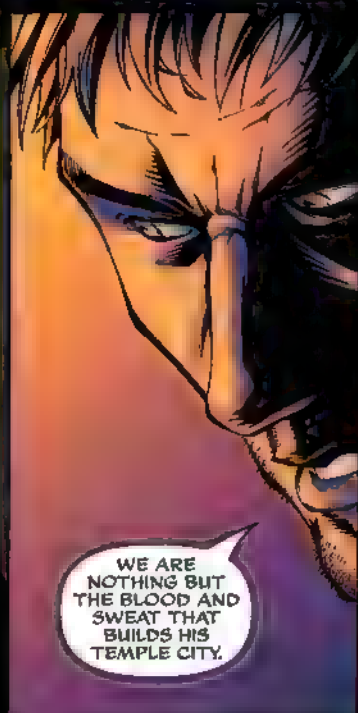
IT HAS NO
NAME... IT IS
MERELY OUR
PRISON. HAVE YOU
COME TO SAVE
US???

SHHHH.

WE ARE
LOOKING FOR
MEMBERS OF OUR
TRIBE. THEY WERE
TAKEN IN THE NIGHT
BY THE SAME
CREATURES THAT
WATCH OVER
YOU.



THE
NIGHTSTALKERS, YES,
THEY ARE CREATURES.
THEY HAVE BROUGHT US
ALL TO THIS CURSED PLACE
TO WORSHIP AND SERVE
KHAAS, THE GREAT AND
POWERFUL MOUNTAIN GOD.
HE HAS RULED OVER US
FOR MANY YEARS.



WE ARE
NOTHING BUT
THE BLOOD AND
SWEAT THAT
BUILDS HIS
TEMPLE CITY.



I CARE NOT
FOR YOU OR YOUR
GODS. I CAME ONLY
FOR OUR PEOPLE.
WHERE ARE THEY?



THE
NIGHTSTALKERS ARE
CONSTANTLY RETURNING
WITH NEW BLOOD FOR THE
MINES... OR FOR KHAAS. MOSTLY
WOMEN AND CHILDREN. IF THEY
TOOK YOUR PEOPLE, THEN THEY
MUST BE HERE-- SCATTERED
THROUGHOUT THE PENS,
FINDING REST WHEREVER
THEY CAN.



HE IS OF NO
USE TO US. WE'LL
HAVE TO SEARCH
ELSEWHERE.

WAIT...



...YOU MUST
HELP US.

GO BACK
INSIDE.



PLEASE...



...DON'T
JUST LEAVE
US.

I... I'M
SORRY. I MUST
FIND MY
MOTHER.



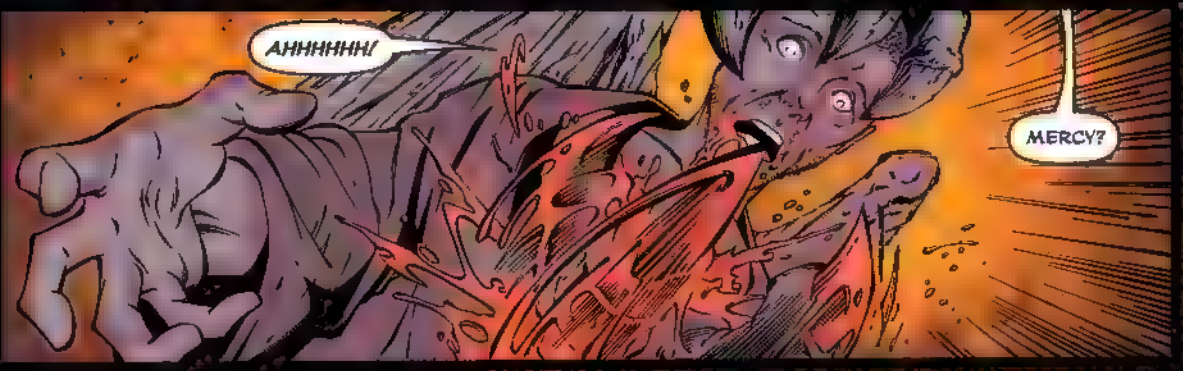
BEHOLD,
SAVIORS.

FREE US,
PLEASE...

QUIET, YOU
FOOLS.



TAKE US
FROM THIS
PLACE... PLEASE.
HAVE MERCY.

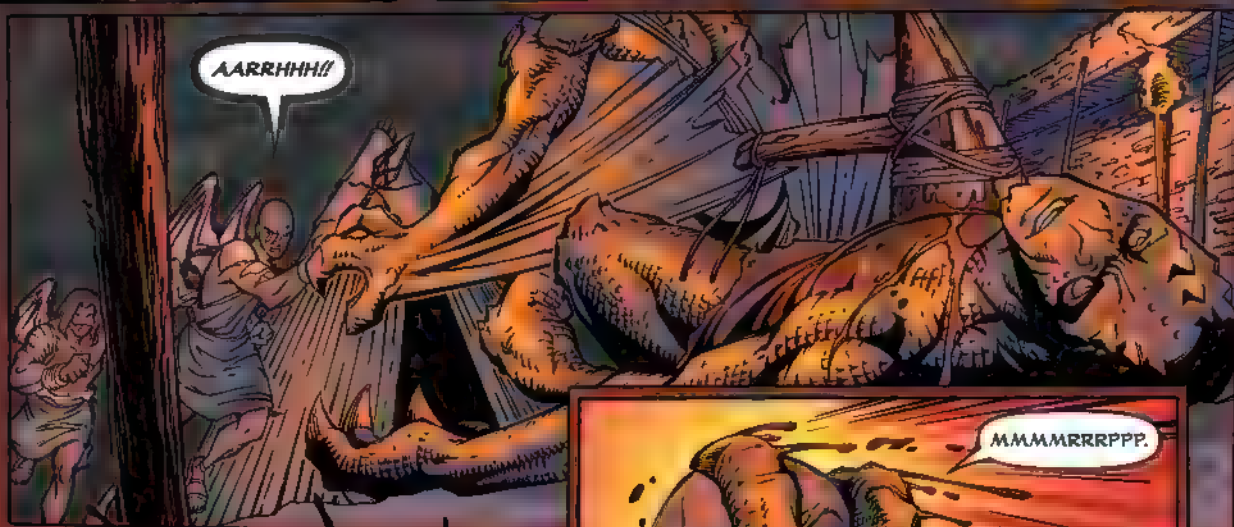


AAAAHHHHH!

MERCY?



AS YOU
WISH.

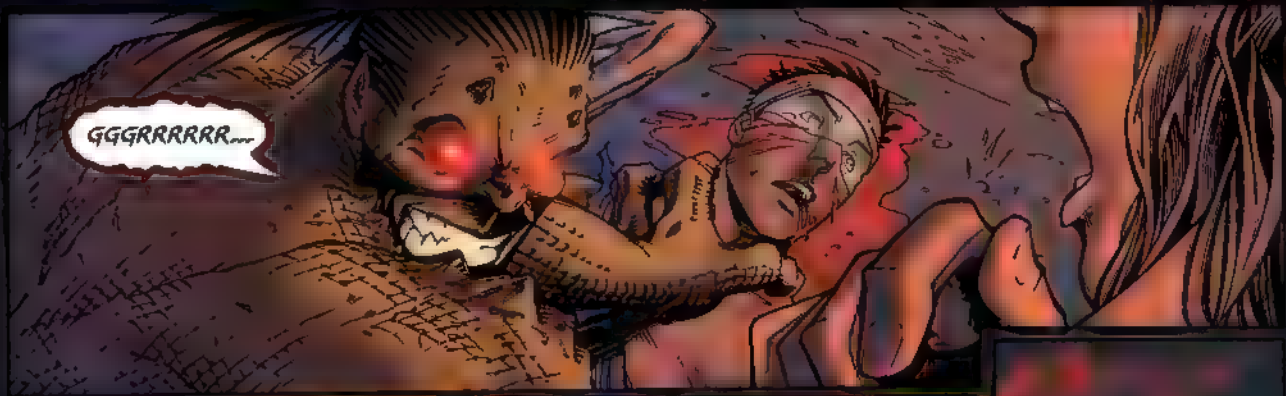




YOU WILL
ANSWER FOR
YOUR DARK
DEEDS.

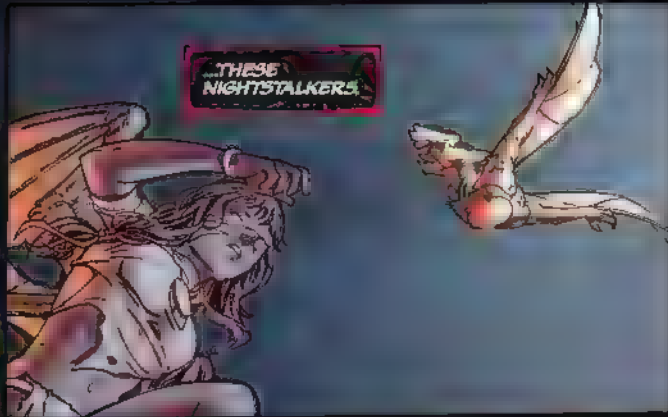
RRRAAAA!!

ESHA!!





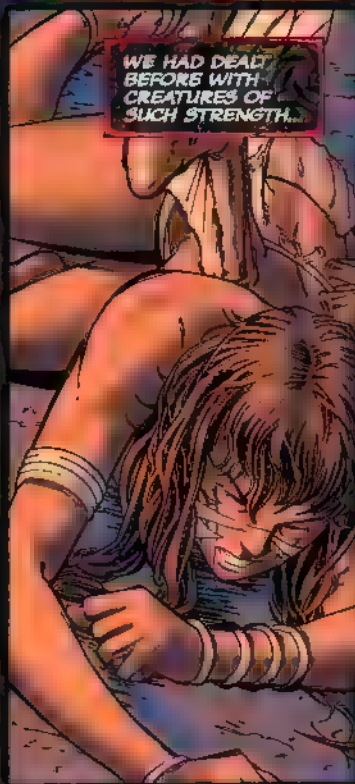
BY THE TIME I REALIZED
OUR MISTAKE, IT WAS
TOO LATE. WE WERE
SCARED OF THESE
STRANGE CREATURES.



THESE
NIGHTSTALKERS



BUT WE WERE
NOT SCARED
ENOUGH.



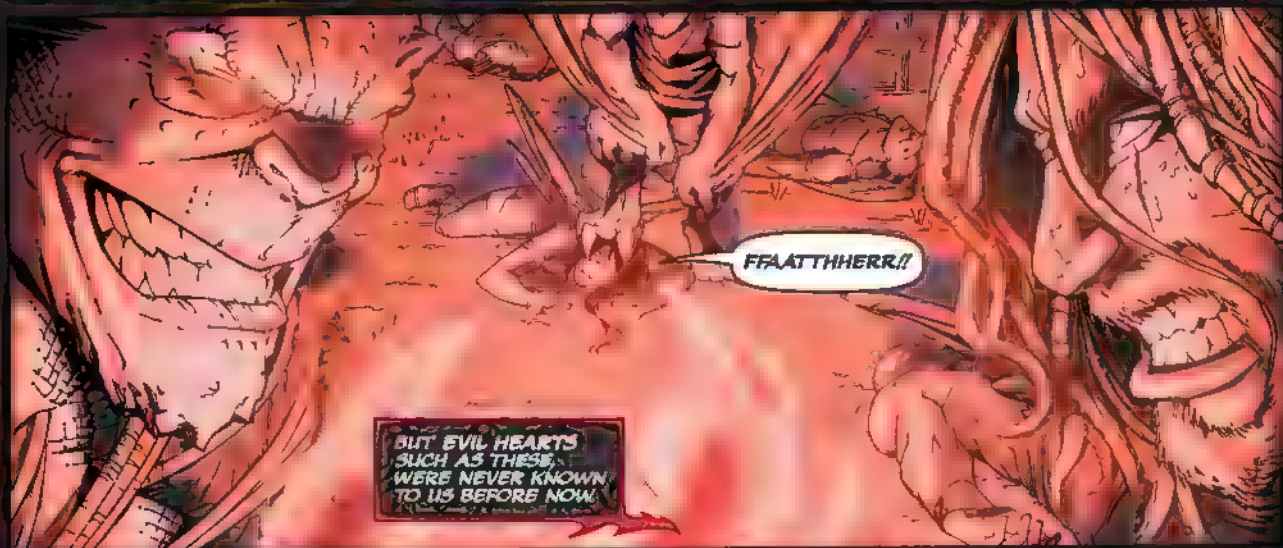
WE HAD DEAD
BEFORE WITH
CREATURES OF
SUCH STRENGTH.



AND CLINING.

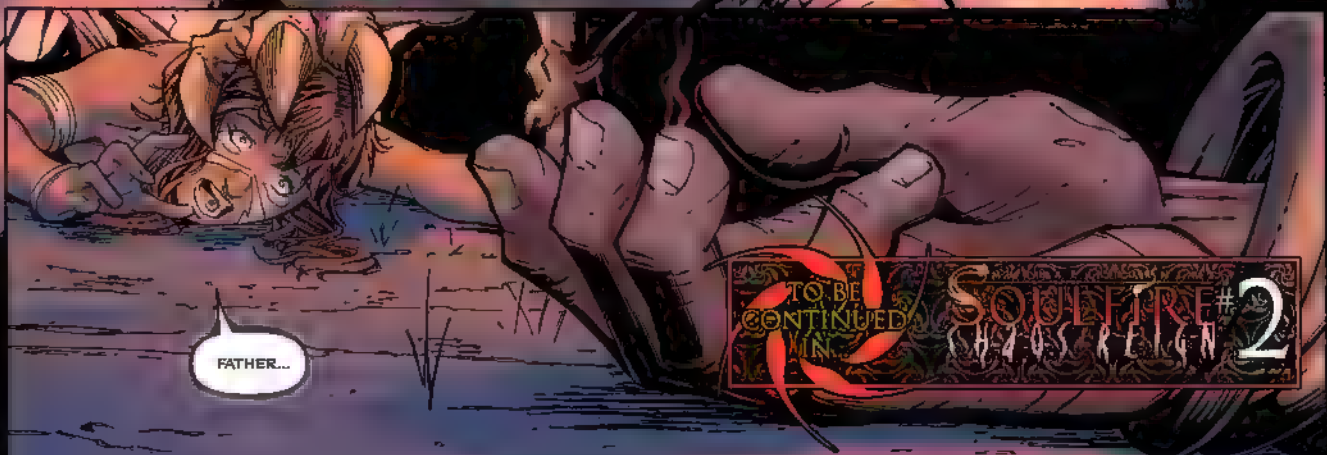


AND FEROCITY.



FFAATTHERR!!

BUT EVIL HEARTS
SUCH AS THESE
WERE NEVER KNOWN
TO US BEFORE NOW.





#2
OF 3
COVER A

MICHAEL TURNERS
SOULFIRE
HAAS REIGN



06
R



#2

OF 3

COVER B

MICHAEL TURNER'S
SOULFIRE
CHAOS REIGN



MT

SOULFIRE CREATED BY
MICHAEL TURNER

SOULFIRE CHAOS REIGN
ISSUE TWO OF THREE

WORDS
J.T. KRUL

PENCILS
MARCUS TO

INKS
DON HO & SALEEM CRAWFORD

COLORS
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THE FACE OF MY FATHER
BEARS THE HARSHNESS
OF THIS WORLD.

IN PAST TIMES, I LOOKED TO
IT TO FIND THE STRENGTH
OF PURPOSE AND THE WILL
TO SURVIVE, FOR THAT IS
WHAT HE'S ALWAYS DONE.

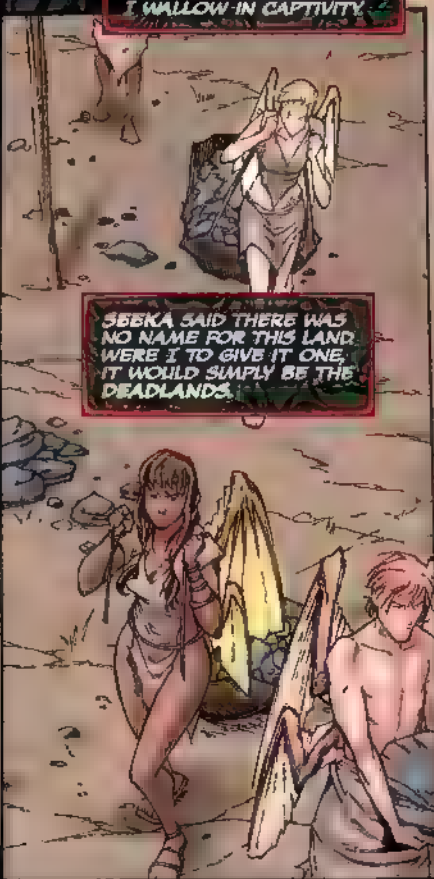
BUT IN SETTING OUT TO
FIND MY MOTHER WHO
WAS STOLEN AWAY FROM
US IN THE NIGHT, OUR
JOURNEY LED US HERE.

AND NOW, MY
FATHER'S EYES
REVEAL ONLY GRIEF
AND SUFFERING.

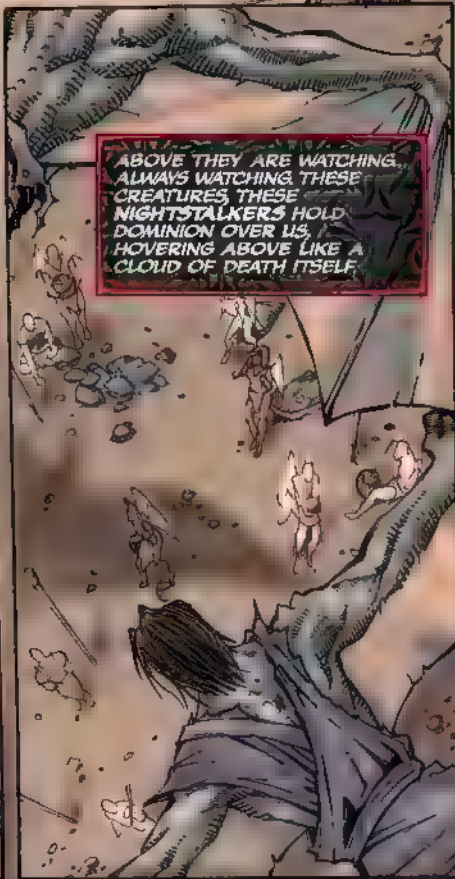


AND OBLIVION.

IT IS A TRUTH I CANNOT
ESCAPE, FOR I ALWAYS
FEEL THOSE EMPTY EYES
THAT WATCH OVER ME AS
I WALLOW IN CAPTIVITY.



SEBEKA SAID THERE WAS
NO NAME FOR THIS LAND.
WERE I TO GIVE IT ONE,
IT WOULD SIMPLY BE THE
DEADLANDS.

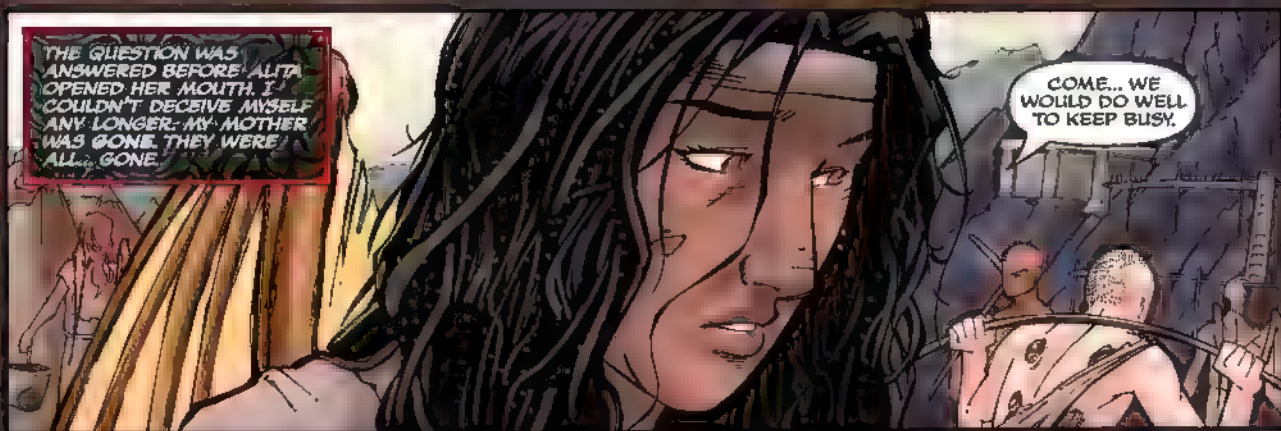
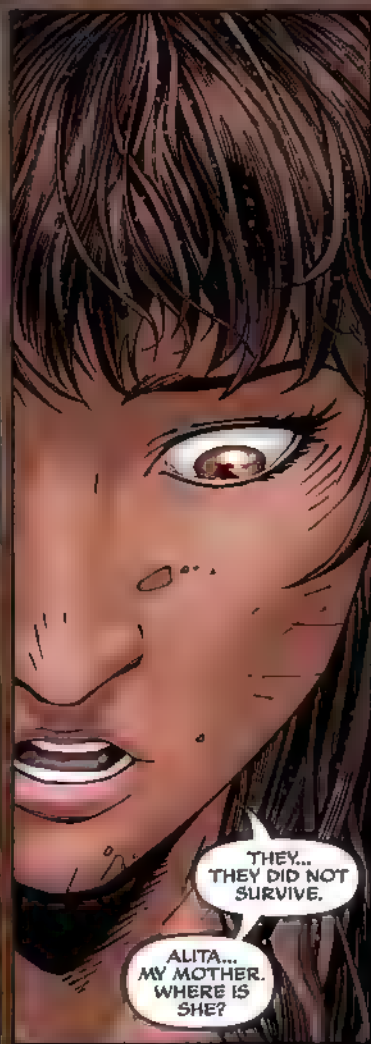
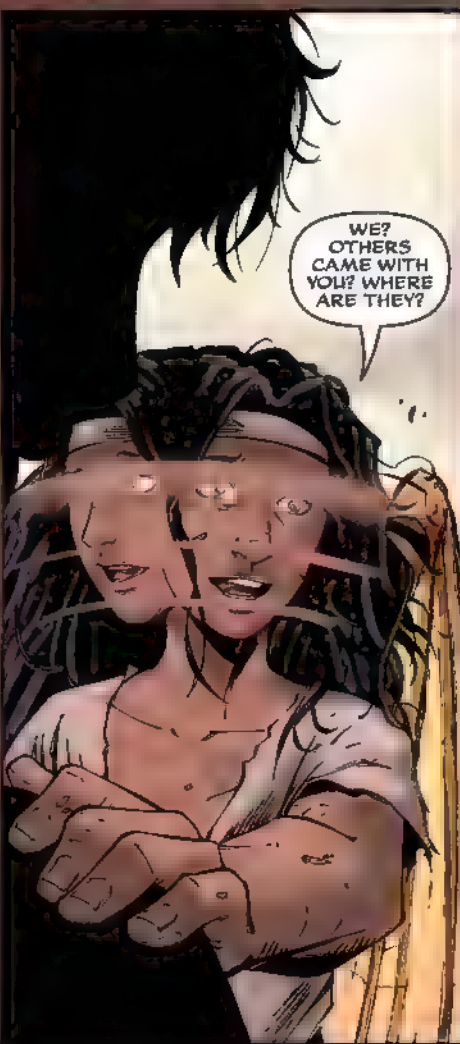
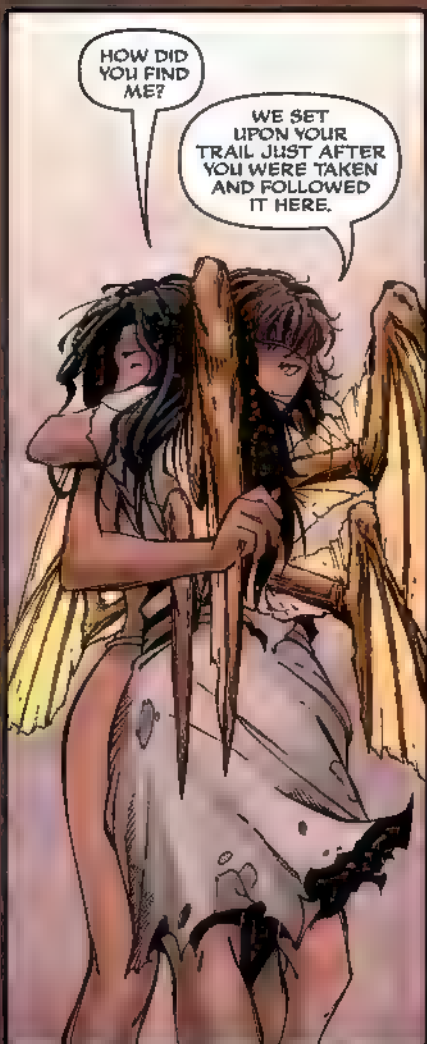
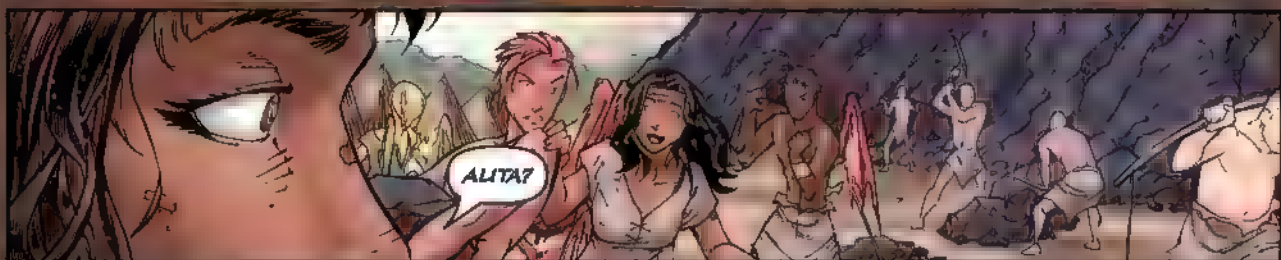
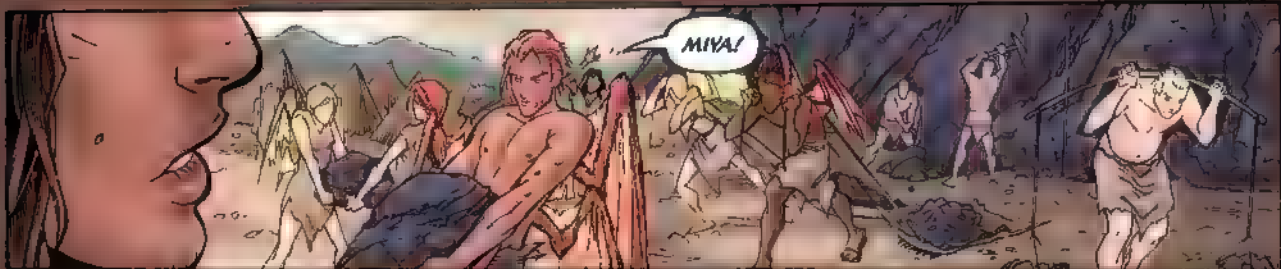


ABOVE THEY ARE WATCHING.
ALWAYS WATCHING. THESE
CREATURES, THESE
NIGHTSTALKERS HOLD
DOMINION OVER US,
HOVERING ABOVE LIKE A
CLOUD OF DEATH ITSELF.

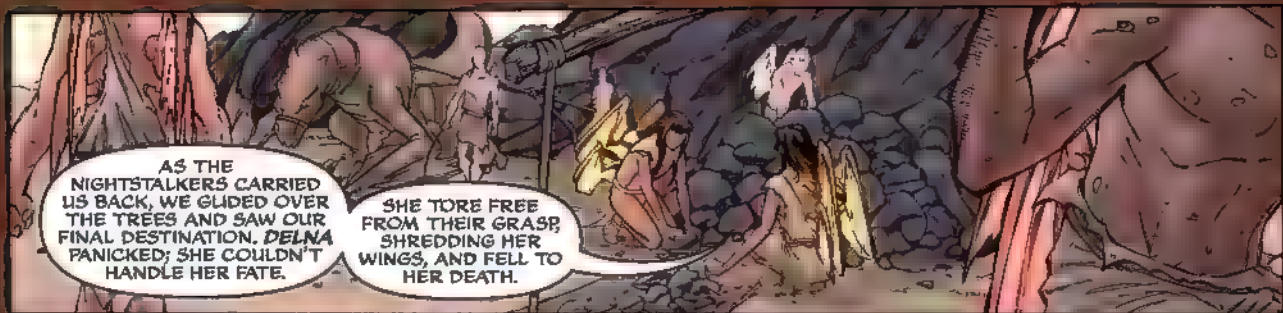


THEY WILL PAY FOR WHAT THEY
DID TO MY FATHER, AND FOR ALL
THE FATHERS AND MOTHERS
AND SONS AND DAUGHTERS
THAT THEY HAVE SLAUGHTERED
IN THEIR QUEST TO CONSTRUCT
THEIR MOUNTAIN KINGDOM.

MIYA?



THE QUESTION WAS ANSWERED BEFORE ALITA OPENED HER MOUTH. I COULDN'T DECEIVE MYSELF ANY LONGER. MY MOTHER WAS GONE. THEY WERE ALL GONE.



AS THE NIGHTSTALKERS CARRIED US BACK, WE GLIDED OVER THE TREES AND SAW OUR FINAL DESTINATION. DELNA PANICKED; SHE COULDN'T HANDLE HER FATE.

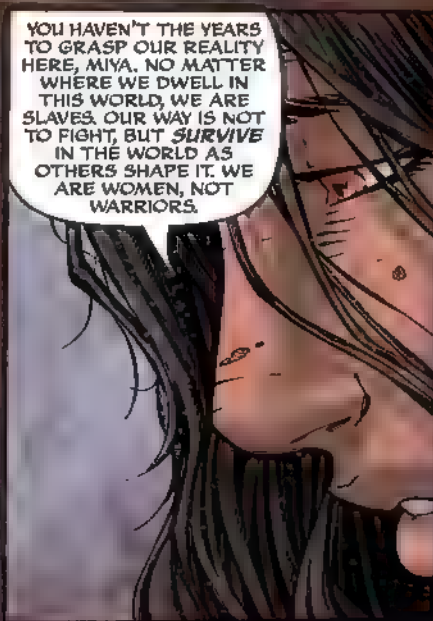
SHE TORE FREE FROM THEIR GRASP, SHREDDING HER WINGS, AND FELL TO HER DEATH.



COULDN'T HANDLE IT? ARE YOU CALLING MY MOTHER A COWARD?

MIYA, PLEASE DO NOT MIS-UNDERSTAND MY WORDS. I SIMPLY MEANT THAT SHE CHOSE DEATH OVER FACING THIS HARDSHIP.

SHE DIED RESISTING HER CAPTORS. SHOULD SHE HAVE EMBRACED SLAVERY?



YOU HAVEN'T THE YEARS TO GRASP OUR REALITY HERE, MIYA. NO MATTER WHERE WE DWELL IN THIS WORLD, WE ARE SLAVES. OUR WAY IS NOT TO FIGHT, BUT *SURVIVE* IN THE WORLD AS OTHERS SHAPE IT. WE ARE WOMEN, NOT WARRIORS.



WE ARE WHAT WE CHOOSE, AS IS THE WORLD WITHIN WHICH WE LIVE. IF YOU WILL NOT STAND UP FOR YOURSELF, THEN YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LIE DOWN FOR OTHERS.



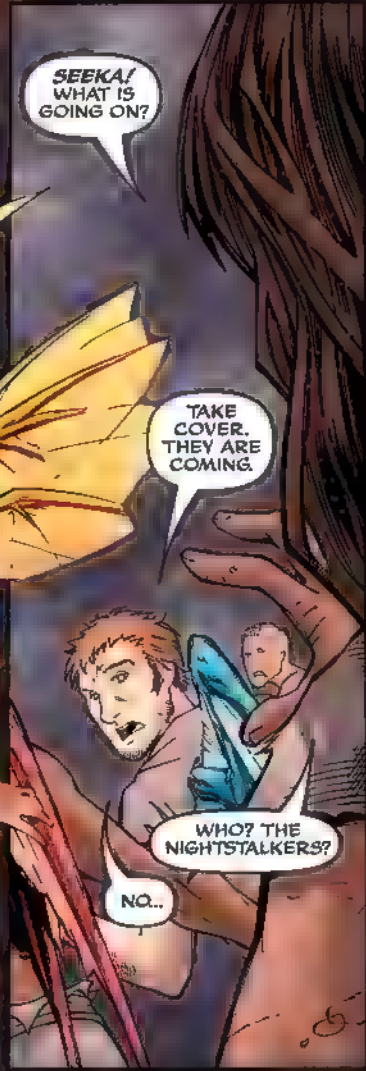
BWWWWRRRRRR...

WHAT IS IT?

I DO NOT KNOW.



BWWWWRRRRRRP...



SEEKA! WHAT IS GOING ON?

TAKE COVER. THEY ARE COMING.

WHO? THE NIGHTSTALKERS?

NO...



...DRAGONS!

RUN!

AggGHHH!

NO WONDER THESE PEOPLE
FIND THEMSELVES TRAPPED AS
SLAVES WITH NO REGARD FOR
ONE ANOTHER. HOW COULD
THEY EVER HOPE TO FIGHT
AGAINST THEIR CAPTORS??

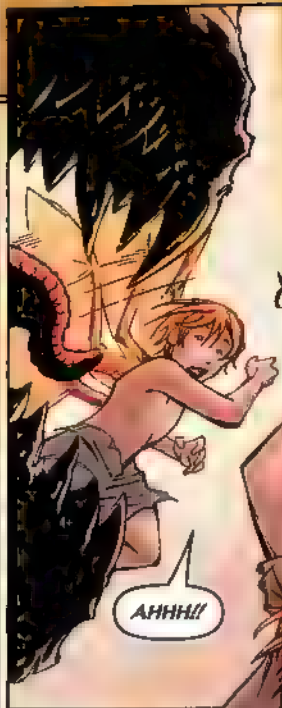
NOOO!



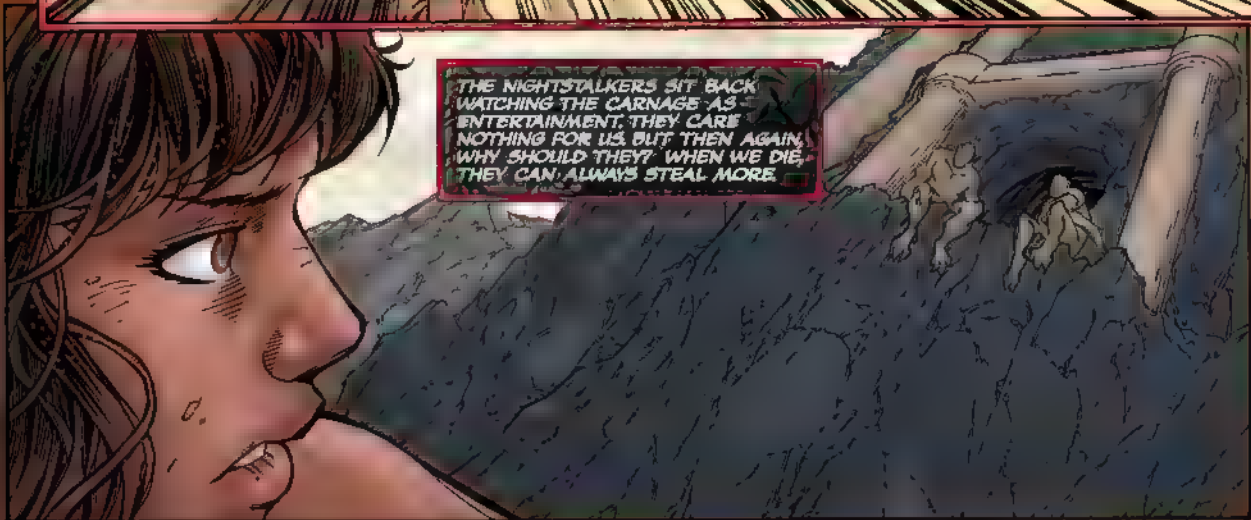
ALITA IS RIGHT. I MAY
BE A HUNTER, BUT I
AM NO WARRIOR.

BUT THAT DOES
NOT MEAN THAT
I CANNOT FIGHT.

MIYA! NO!



AHHH!!



THE NIGHTSTALKERS SIT BACK
WATCHING THE CARNAGE AS
ENTERTAINMENT. THEY CARE
NOTHING FOR US BUT THEN AGAIN
WHY SHOULD THEY? WHEN WE DIE
THEY CAN ALWAYS STEAL MORE

AS I STRUGGLED TO GET THE
BOY OUT OF HARM'S WAY,
SOMETHING DREW NEAR.
SOMETHING FROM WITHIN
THE MOUNTAIN ITSELF.

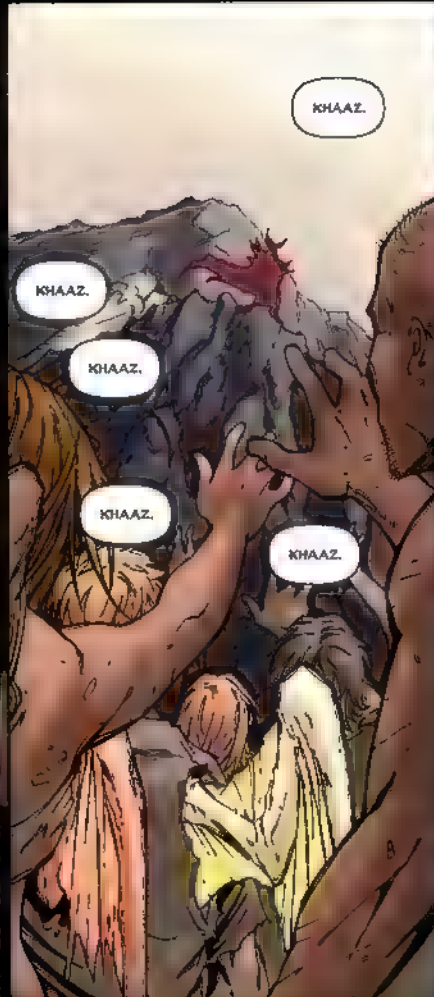
I COULD HAVE
SWORN THAT I
HEARD IT THROUGH
MY EARS, BUT IN
TRUTH THERE WAS
NO SOUND.

IT WASN'T
A NOISE.

IT WAS A
PRESENCE.

IT WAS POWER







IN MY LIFE, I HAD NEVER
SEEN ANYTHING AS
MIGHTY AS A DRAGON.
THEY WERE THE KINGS
OF THIS WORLD, RULING
OVER ALL THE LANDS
FROM ABOVE.

BUT THIS KHA'AZ
WAS DIFFERENT.
HE WAS NO KING.

HE WAS A GOD.

THUUMP

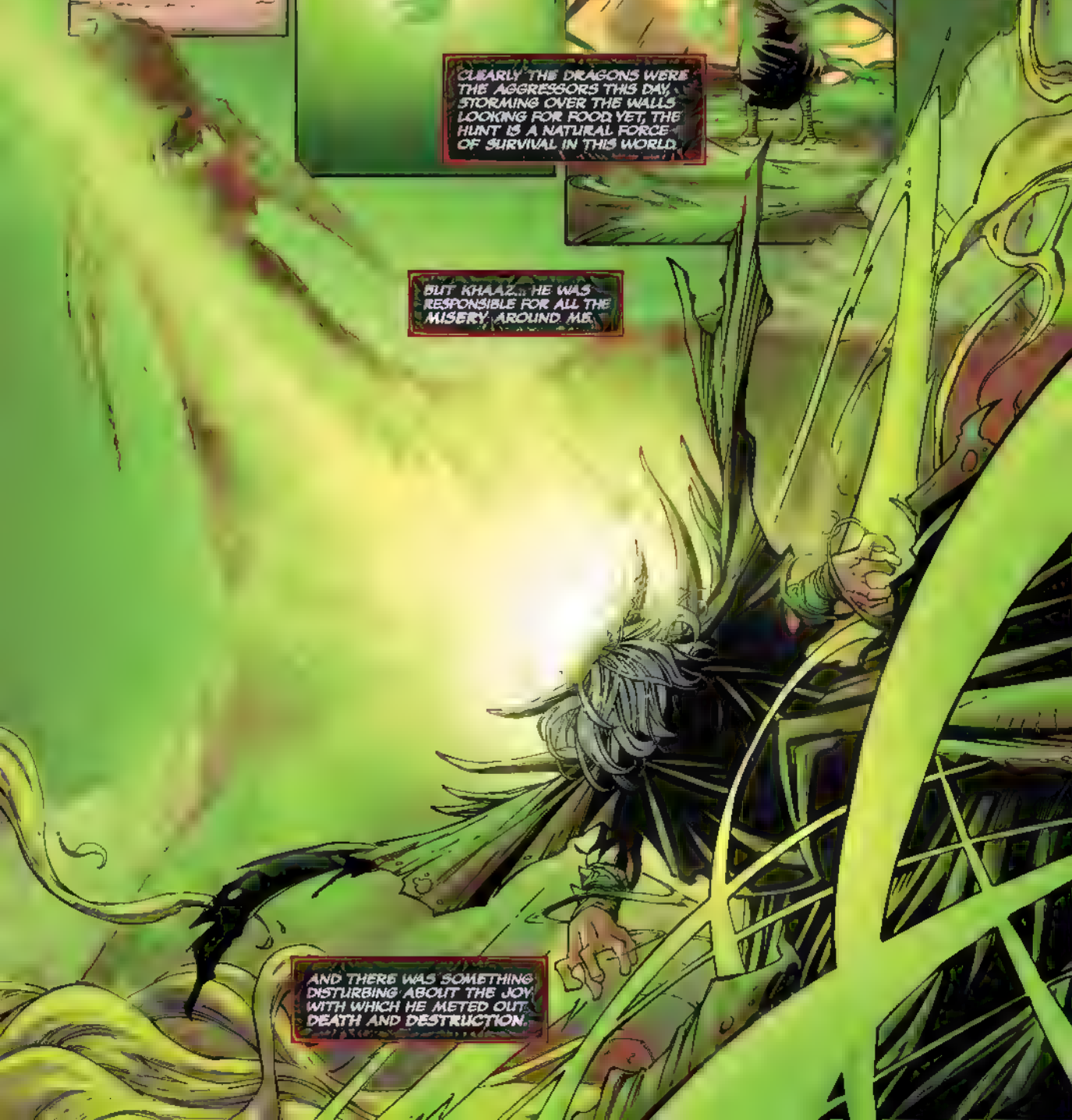


AS THE BATTLE
RAGED, I FOUND
MYSELF UNCERTAIN
OF WHOM I WISHED
TO SEE VICTORIOUS.

RRRAAGGGHH!



CLEARLY THE DRAGONS WERE
THE AGGRESSORS THIS DAY,
STORMING OVER THE WALLS
LOOKING FOR FOOD. YET, THE
HUNT IS A NATURAL FORCE
OF SURVIVAL IN THIS WORLD.



BUT KHAAZ... HE WAS
RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE
MISERY AROUND ME.

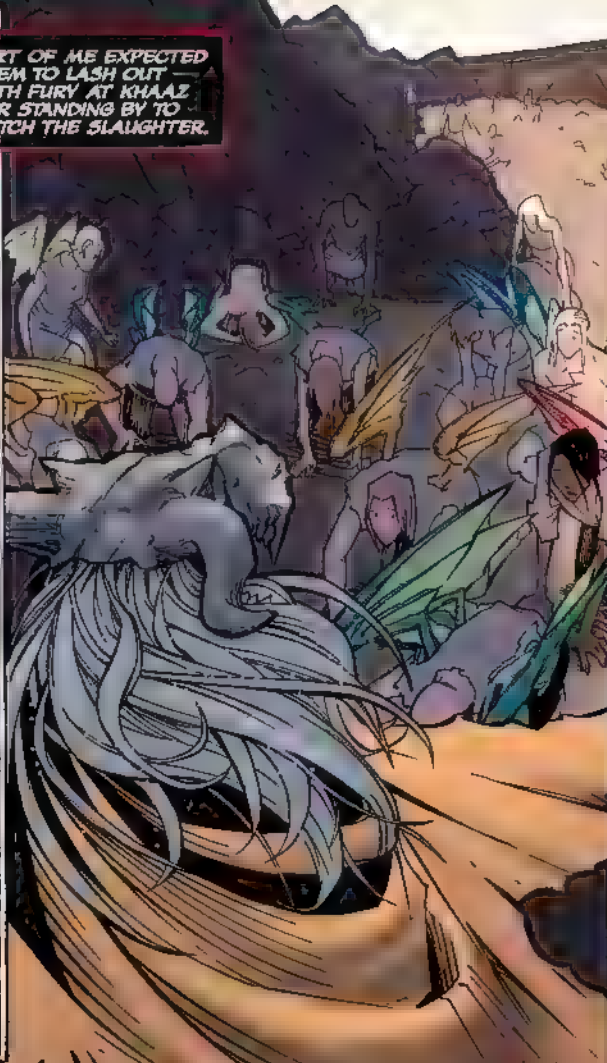
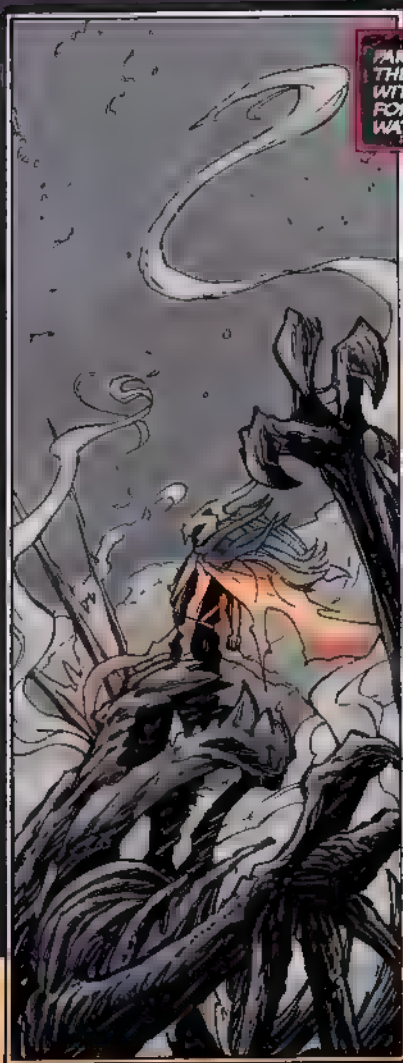
AND THERE WAS SOMETHING
DISTURBING ABOUT THE JOY
WITH WHICH HE METED OUT
DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.



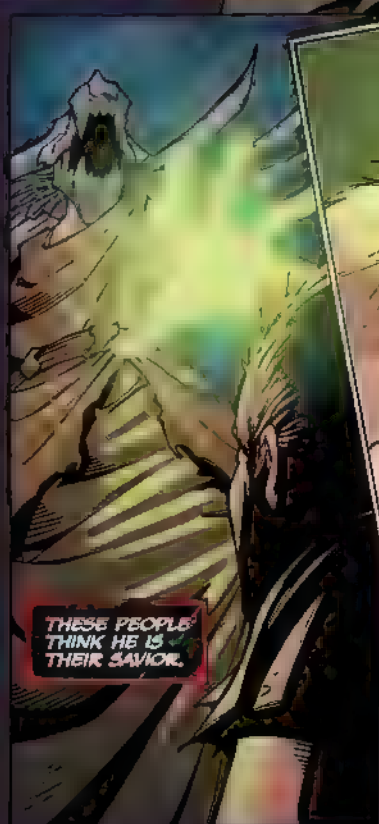
WHATEVER BELIEF MY FATHER
HELD WITH REGARD TO MAGIC
AND ITS PLACE AND PURPOSE
IN THIS WORLD, KHAAZ DID NOT
FOLLOW THE SAME PATH.

AND BECAUSE OF THAT,
THE DRAGONS DIDN'T
STAND A CHANCE.

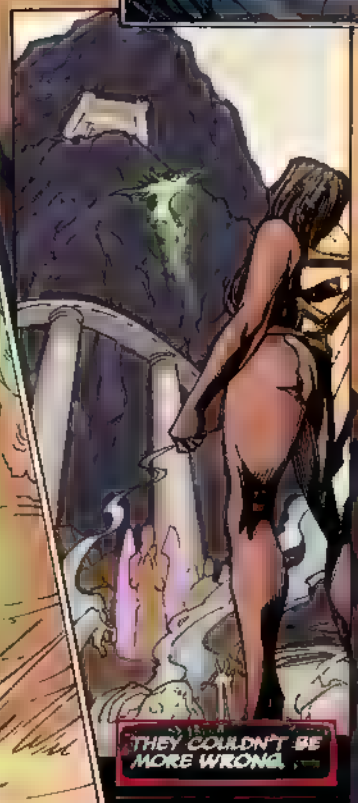
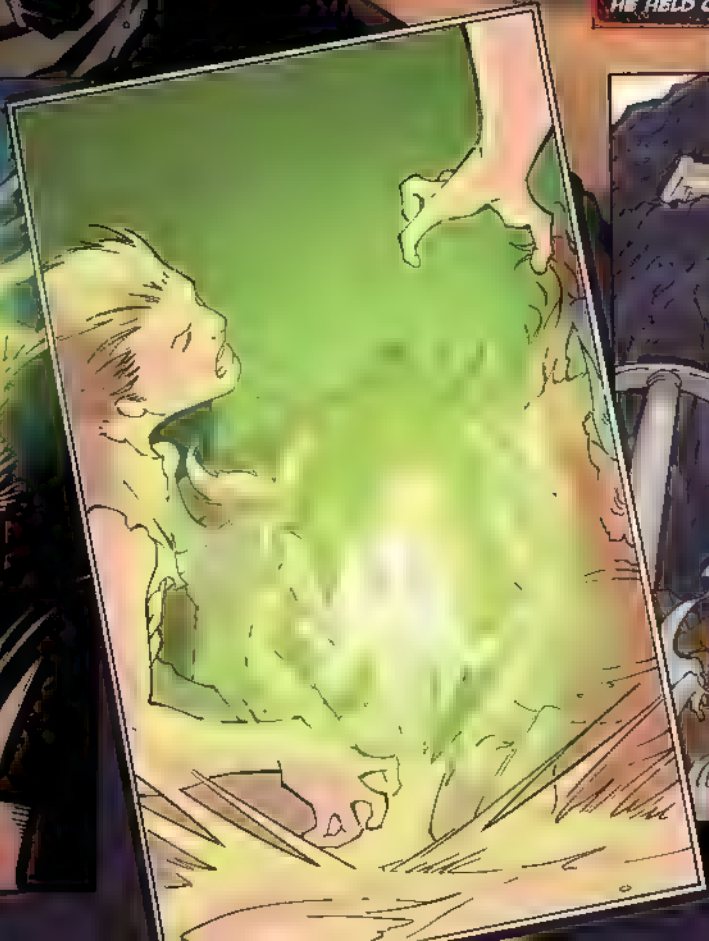
PART OF ME EXPECTED
THEM TO LASH OUT
WITH FURY AT KHA'AZ
FOR STANDING BY TO
WATCH THE SLAUGHTER.



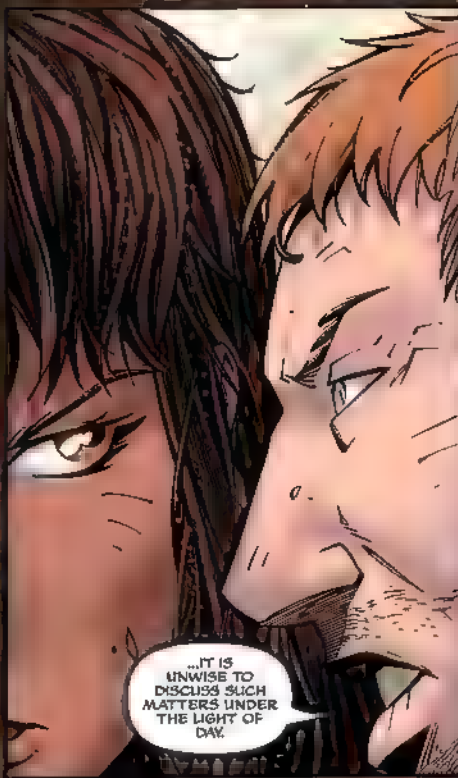
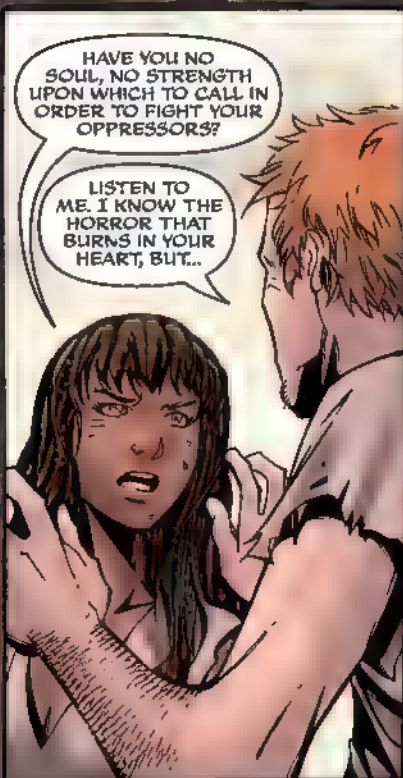
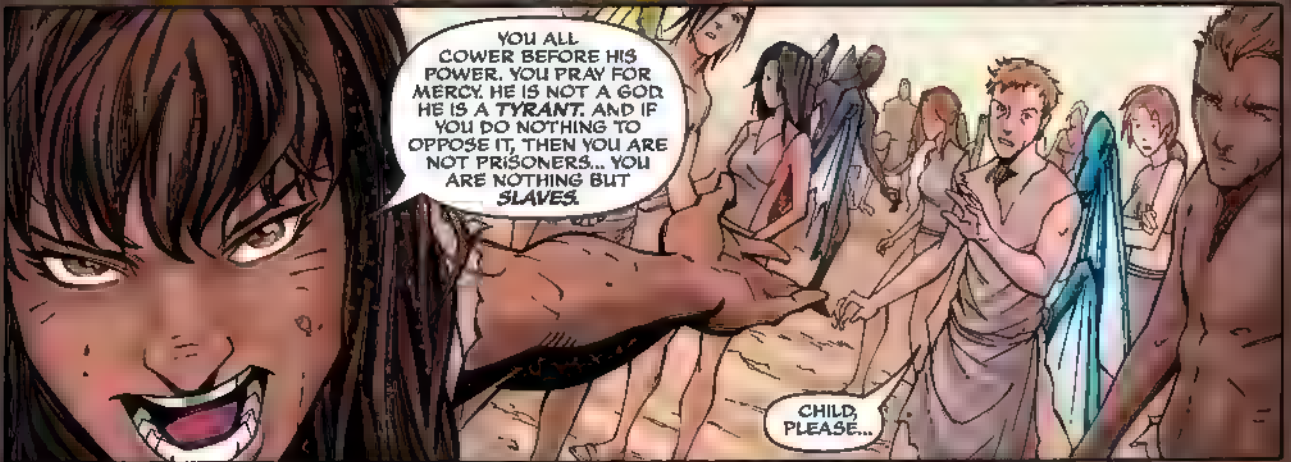
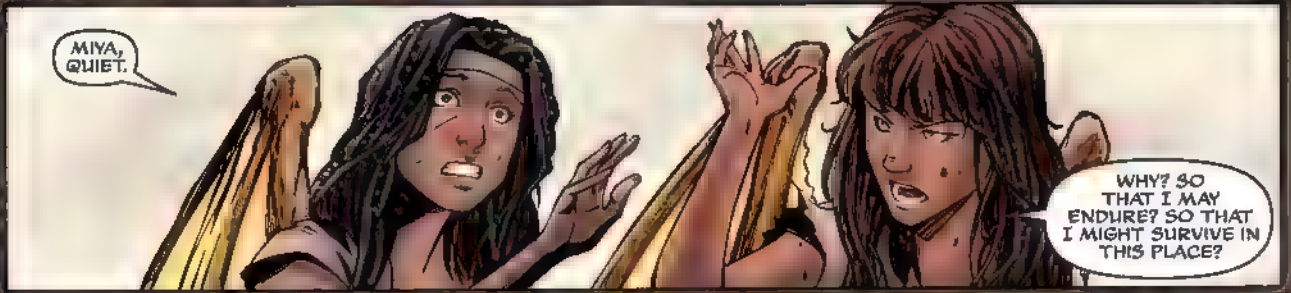
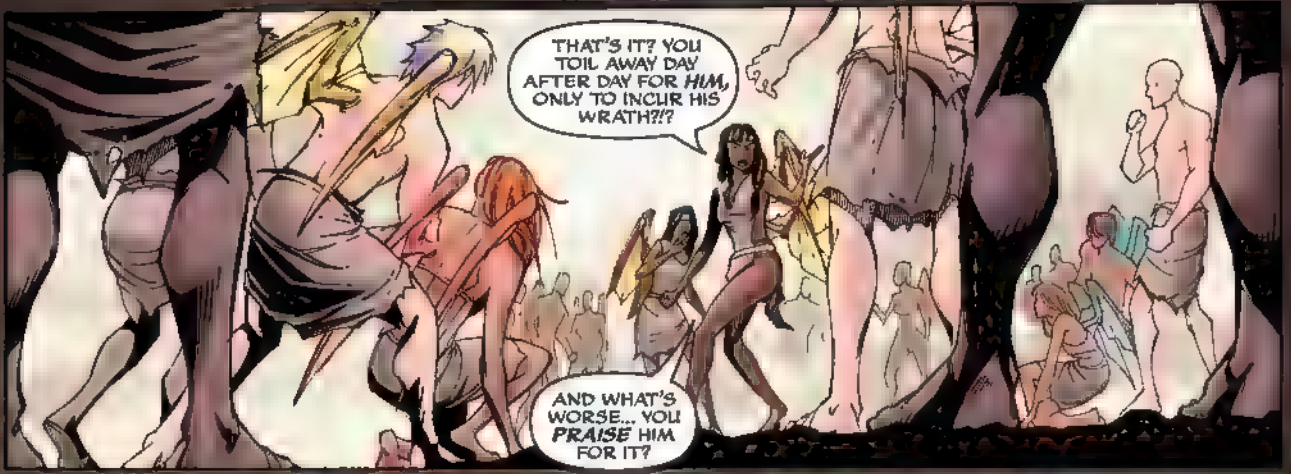
BUT I UNDER-
ESTIMATED THE POWER
HE HELD OVER THEM.

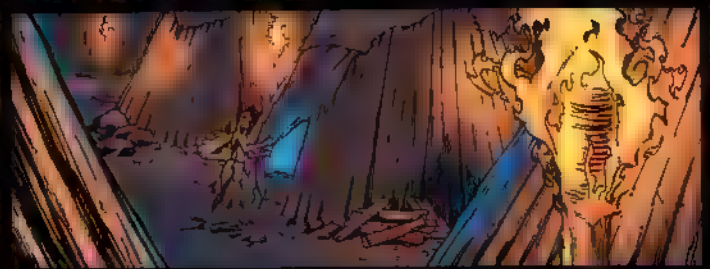


THESE PEOPLE
THINK HE IS
THEIR SAVIOR.



THEY COULDN'T BE
MORE WRONG.

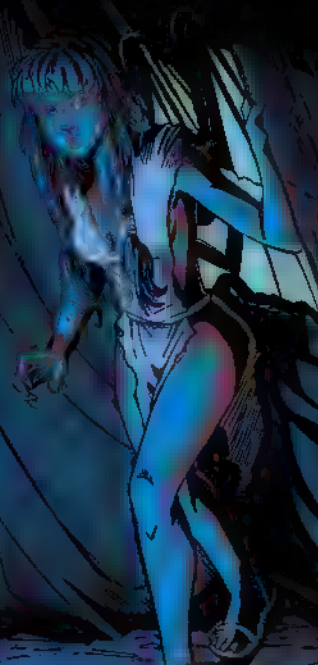




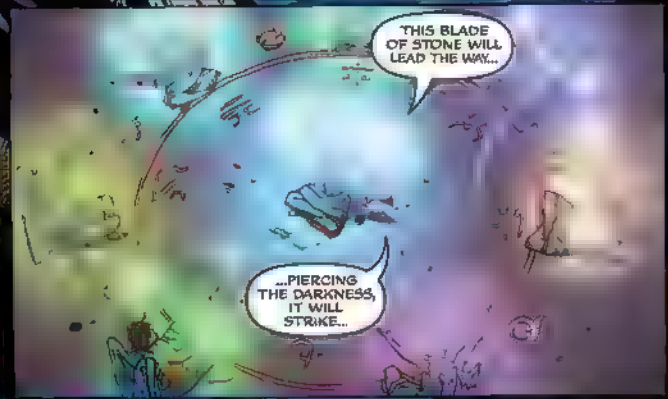
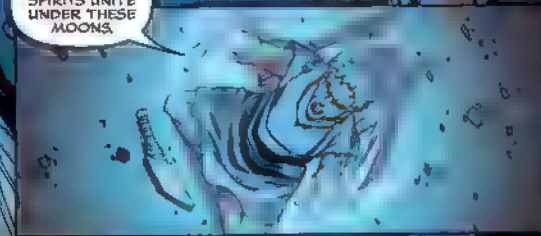
...HARBINGER
OF LIGHT

FROM PAIN
TO PURPOSE.

...FROM FURY
TO FIRE...

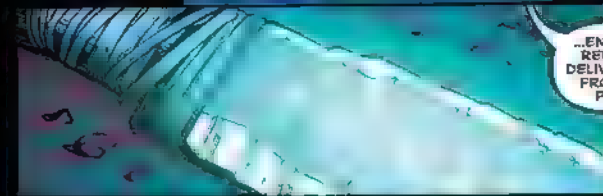


...LET THE
MAGIC OF OUR
SPIRITS UNITE
UNDER THESE
MOONS

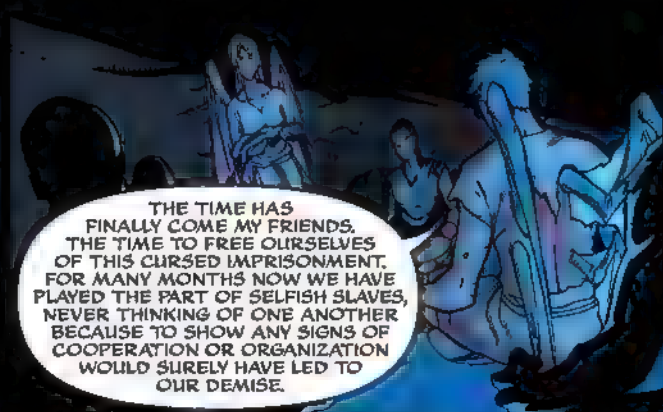


THIS BLADE
OF STONE WILL
LEAD THE WAY...

...PIERCING
THE DARKNESS,
IT WILL
STRIKE...



...ENDING HIS
REIGN AND
DELIVERING US
FROM THIS
PLIGHT.



THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME MY FRIENDS. THE TIME TO FREE OURSELVES OF THIS CURSED IMPRISONMENT. FOR MANY MONTHS NOW WE HAVE PLAYED THE PART OF SELFISH SLAVES, NEVER THINKING OF ONE ANOTHER BECAUSE TO SHOW ANY SIGNS OF COOPERATION OR ORGANIZATION WOULD SURELY HAVE LED TO OUR DEMISE.



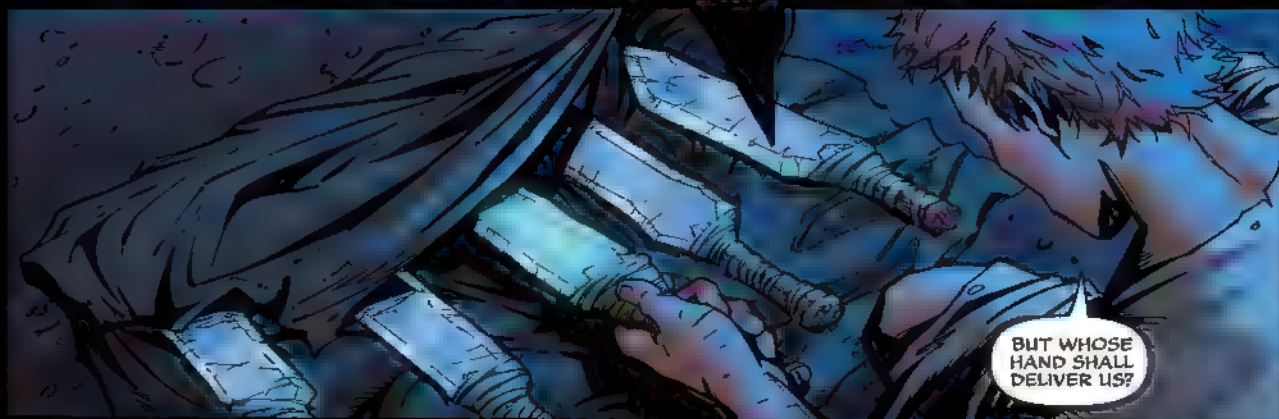
BUT UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS, WE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER.

WE MAY NOT HAVE THE POWER OF KHAAZ, BUT THAT IS NOT TO SAY WE ARE WITHOUT OUR OWN MAGIC.

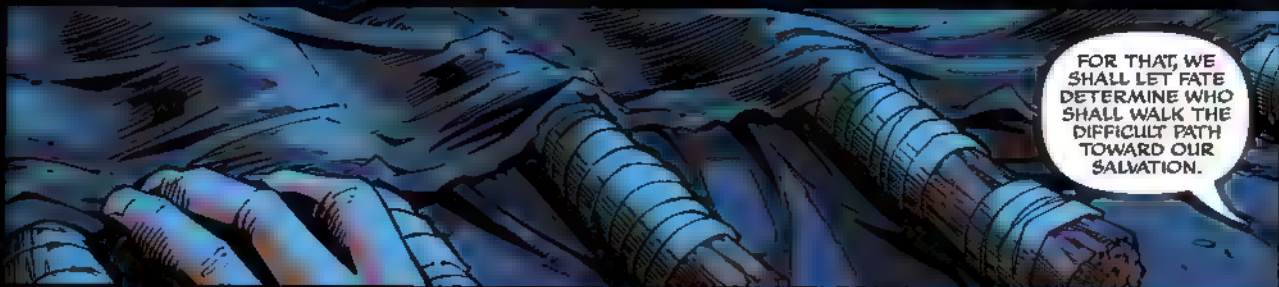


IN MY HANDS, I HOLD THE COMBINED POWER OF EACH AND EVERYONE ONE OF US.

FUSED FROM OUR RAGE AND OUR PAIN, THIS DAGGER WILL BE THE SOURCE OF KHAAZ'S UNDOING. IT WILL GRANT US REVENGE, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY... **FREEDOM.**



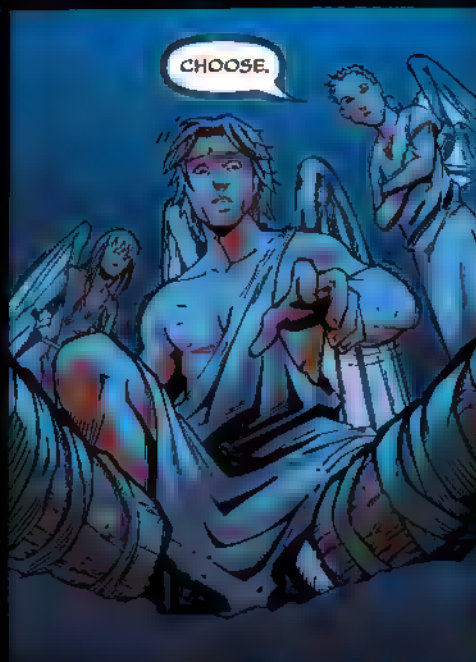
BUT WHOSE HAND SHALL DELIVER US?



FOR THAT, WE SHALL LET FATE DETERMINE WHO SHALL WALK THE DIFFICULT PATH TOWARD OUR SALVATION.



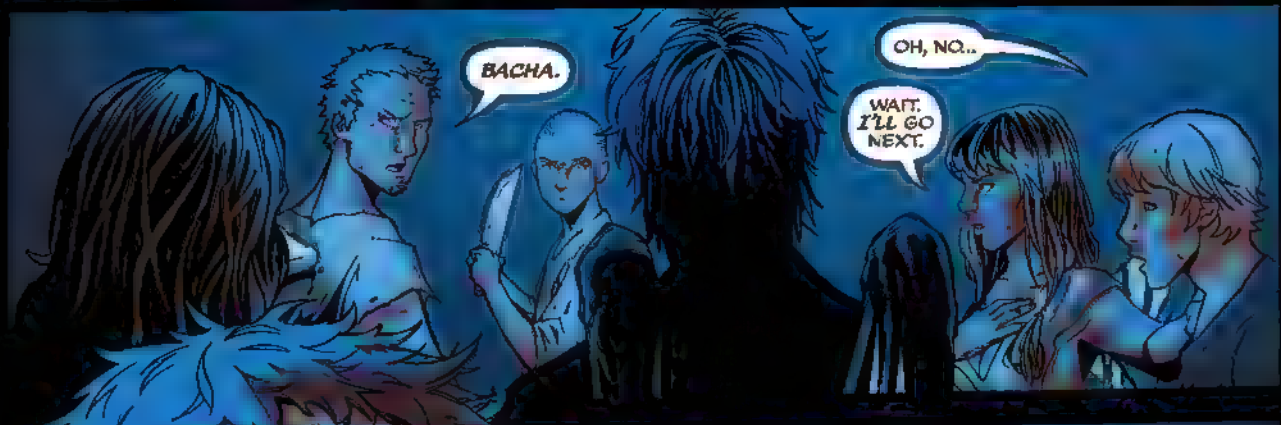
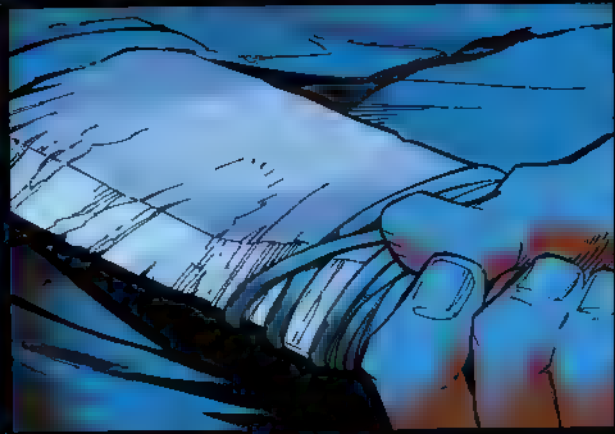
LET US BEGIN.



CHOOSE.



ELSIN, YOU
MAY SIT DOWN.
WARIN?



BACHA.

OH, NO...

WAIT.
I'LL GO
NEXT.



MIYA, I DID
NOT ASK YOU
HERE FOR
THAT.

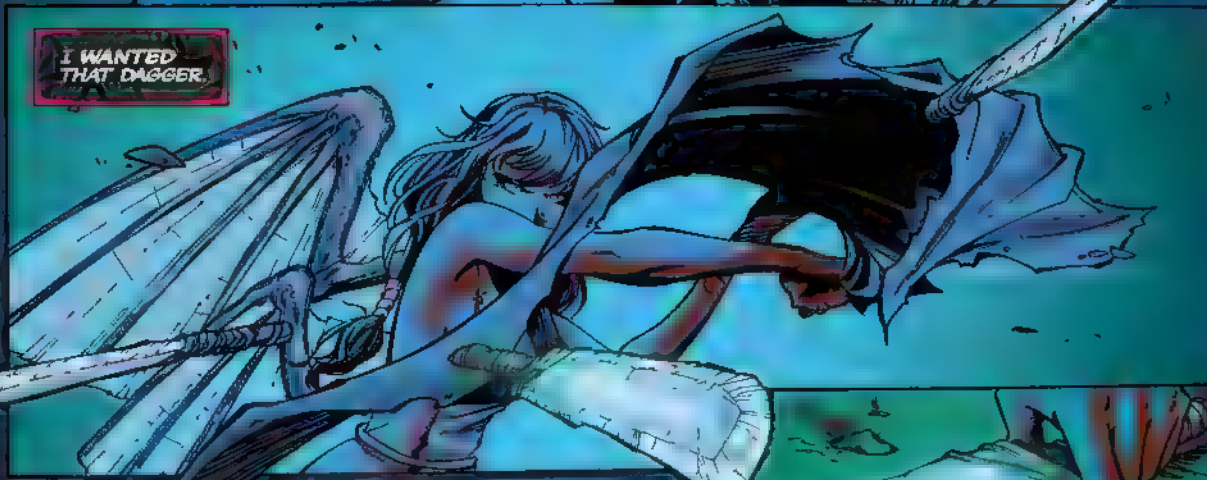
I KNOW, BUT
IF I AM TO
STAND WITH YOU
HERE TONIGHT,
THEN I SHOULD
DRAW AS
WELL.



AS I STOOD THERE, I
KNEW I WAS DIFFERENT
FROM THE OTHERS.



I WANTED
THAT DAGGER.



I WANTED TO
BE THE ONE.



FATE'S HAND
DIDN'T FORCE MY
DESTINY. IT WAS KHA AZ
AND HIS MINIONS. THEY
DID THIS. THEY SET MY
PATH, AND THEY ARE
GOING TO DIE FOR IT.

TO BE
CONCLUDED
IN

SOULFIRE #3
CHAOS REIGN



#3
OF 3
COVER A

MICHAEL TURNER'S
SOULFIRE
CHAOS REIGN



SOULFIRE CREATED BY
MICHAEL TURNER

SOULFIRE CHAOS REIGN
ISSUE THREE OF THREE

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WHEN WE FIRST CAME UPON THIS PLACE, I COULDN'T BELIEVE HOW ANYONE WOULD ALLOW THEMSELVES TO ACCEPT SUCH TREATMENT.

...WHY ANYONE WOULD ENDURE THE HARDSHIP OF SLAVERY WITHOUT RESISTING.

BUT I HAVE SINCE LEARNED THAT THE ABILITY TO ADAPT IS AS MUCH A MENTAL TRAIT AS A PHYSICAL ONE.

OBEYING BECOMES JUST ANOTHER MEANS OF SURVIVAL.



AND IT IS ONLY THE THOUGHT OF THE COMING NEXT DAY THAT KEEPS US GOING FOR EVEN IN THE MOST WEAKENED SOULS THERE IS A GLUMMER OF HOPE.

HOPE THAT THE COMING DAY WILL BRING A CHANGE... AN END TO THE OPPRESSION.



NOW!!!

LET TODAY
BE THAT DAY





I MUST GET INTO THE MOUNTAIN BEFORE I AM NOTICED.



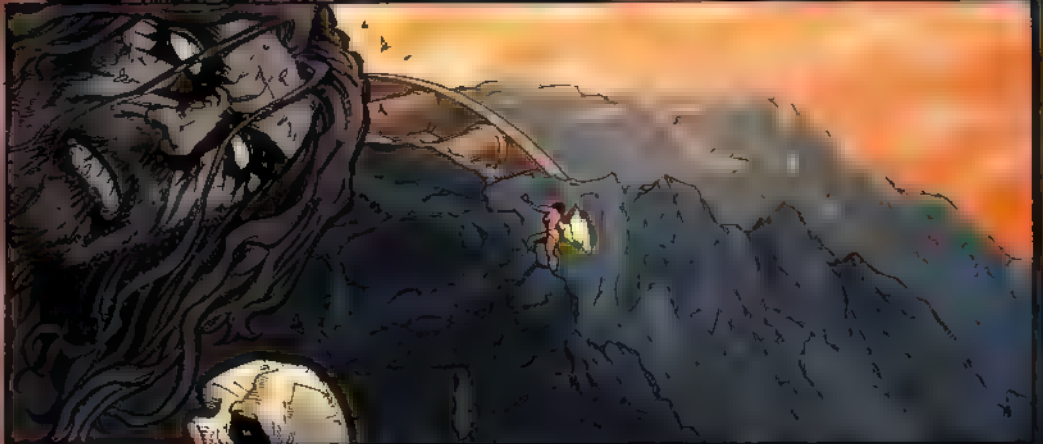
FATHER, I STILL FEEL YOUR EYES UPON ME.

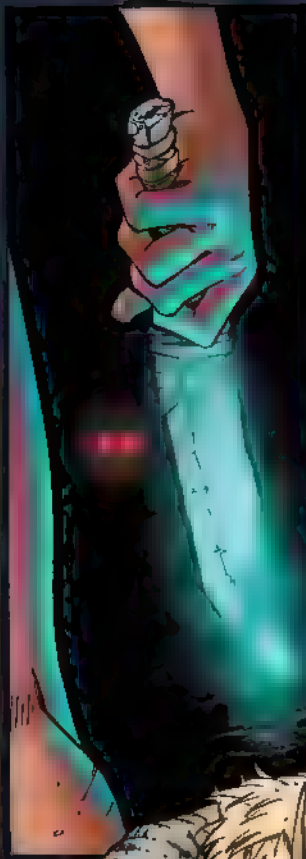


I AM SORRY THAT I WAS NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO SAVE YOU.

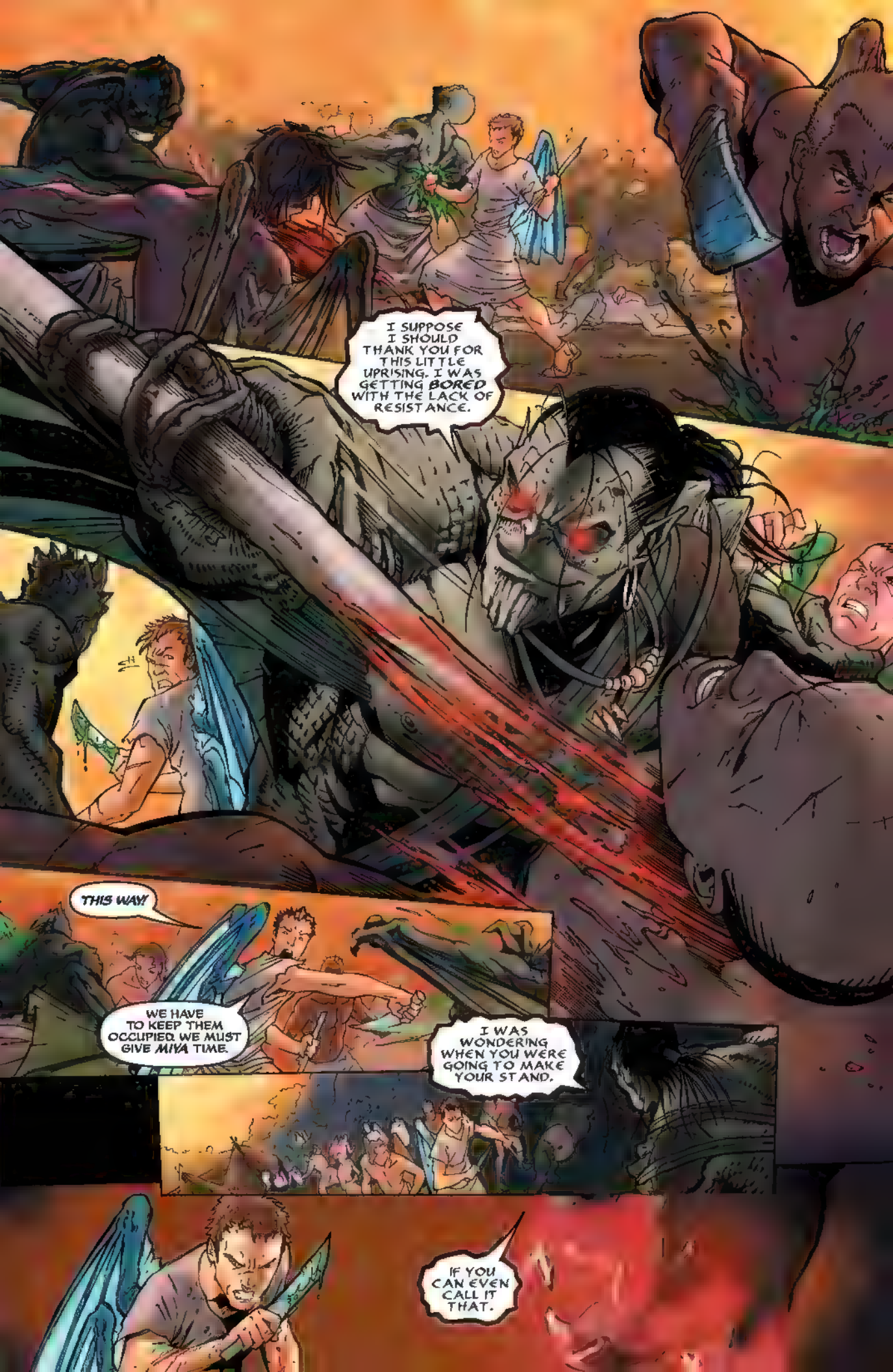


BUT I WILL BE STRONG ENOUGH TO AVENGE YOU.









I SUPPOSE
I SHOULD
THANK YOU FOR
THIS LITTLE
UPRISING. I WAS
GETTING BORED
WITH THE LACK OF
RESISTANCE.

THIS WAY!

WE HAVE
TO KEEP THEM
OCCUPIED. WE MUST
GIVE MIYA TIME.

I WAS
WONDERING
WHEN YOU WERE
GOING TO MAKE
YOUR STAND.

IF YOU
CAN EVEN
CALL IT
THAT.



THIS ENTIRE CAVERN
REEKS OF DEATH
AND DECAY...

...AND FOR
GOOD REASON.

WELCOME.

I AM NOT
USED TO GETTING
VISITORS IN
HERE.

YOU MUST
REALIZE THAT
OBLIVION IS THE ONLY
THING THAT AWAITS
YOU... TELL ME, ARE YOU
STRONG OF HEART OR
MERELY WEAK OF
MIND?

WHATEVER I
AM... AT LEAST I
AM NOT A COWARD,
HIDING IN THE
SHADOWS LIKE A
SNAKE.

A SNAKE?
OH, LITTLE
ONE...

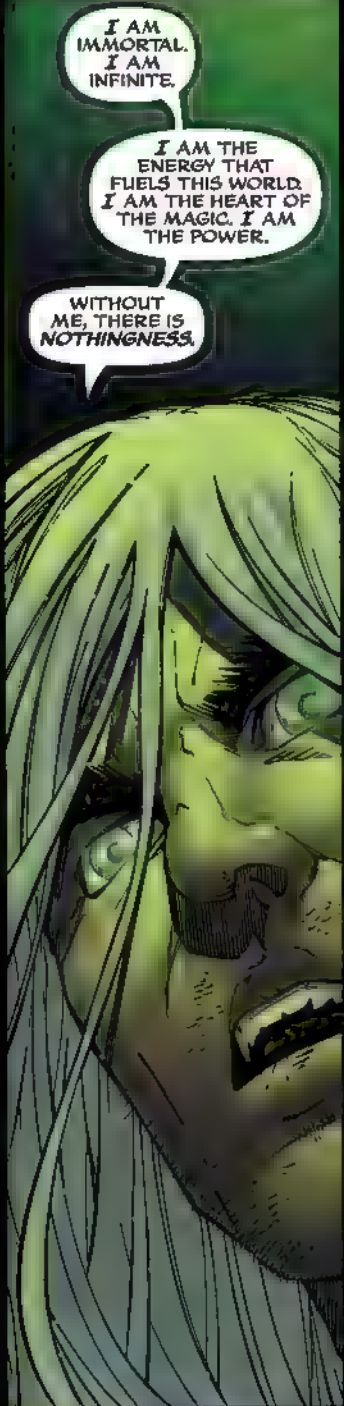
...I AM
SO MUCH
MORE.





YOUR EYES TELL ME EVERYTHING. I SEE NOT YOU IN THEM, BUT RATHER HOW YOU SEE ME. I AM **BRUTAL**... I AM A **MONSTER**... I AM **EVIL**.

WERE I TO SHARE YOUR WORLDVIEW, I MIGHT AGREE. YOUR REALITY IS ONE OF SLAVERY WITH MINE AS THE FORCEFUL HAND THAT OPPRESSES YOU. BUT YOU HAVE NO CONCEPT OF THE **TRUTH**. YOUR TIME HERE IS LIMITED, WHILE MY **REIGN** IS ENDLESS.



I AM **IMMORTAL**.
I AM **INFINITE**.

I AM THE **ENERGY** THAT **FUELS** THIS WORLD. I AM THE **HEART** OF THE **MAGIC**. I AM THE **POWER**.

WITHOUT ME, THERE IS **NOTHINGNESS**.



IF YOU ARE WHAT YOU CLAIM, THEN WHY ACT WITH SUCH **CRUELTY** TO YOUR **CREATURES**?

IS IT **CRUEL** TO DRINK THE WATER FROM THE **RIVERS**? OR CUT THE **WHEAT** FOR **HARVEST**? OR CARVE THE **STONE** INTO **FORM**?



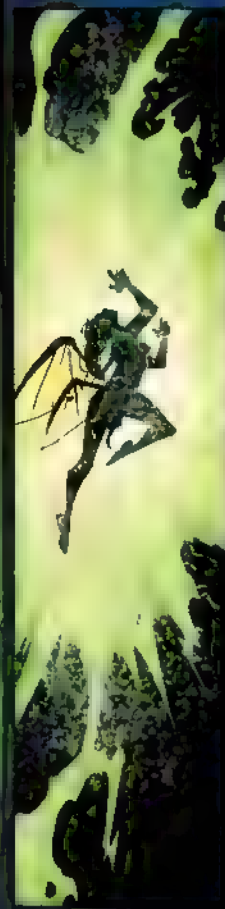
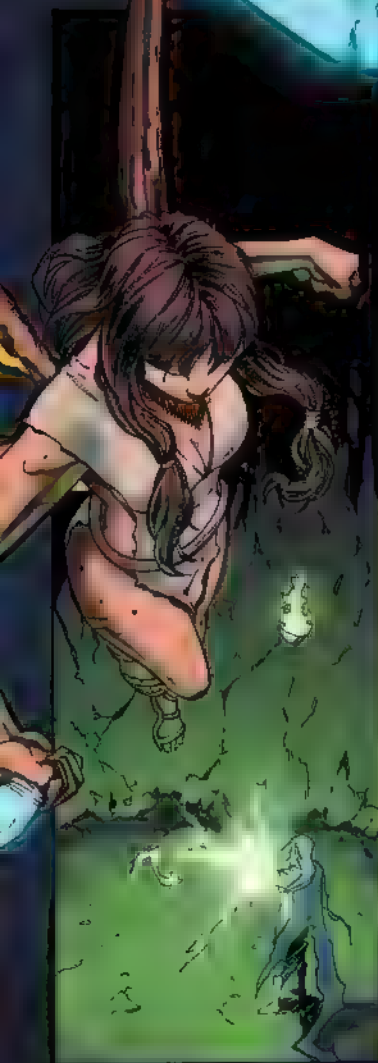
SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU HAVE THE **MAGIC** TO **CONTROL** DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU **SHOULD**.

IT'S NOT ABOUT **POWER**, **KHAAZ**.

TRUST
ME...

...IT'S ALL
ABOUT
POWER.



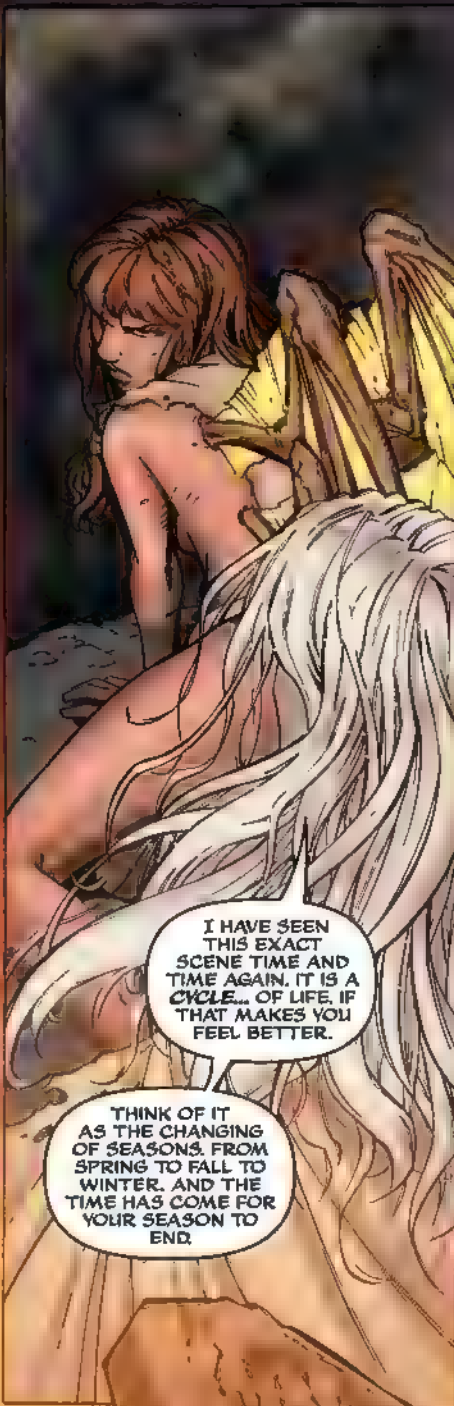




WE'VE...
WE'VE
FAILED.



I UNDERSTAND
THAT SUCH A SIGHT
MAY BE UNSETTLING TO
YOU, BUT YOU MUST
REALIZE THAT IS MERELY
A PROCESS OF YOUR
EXISTENCE.

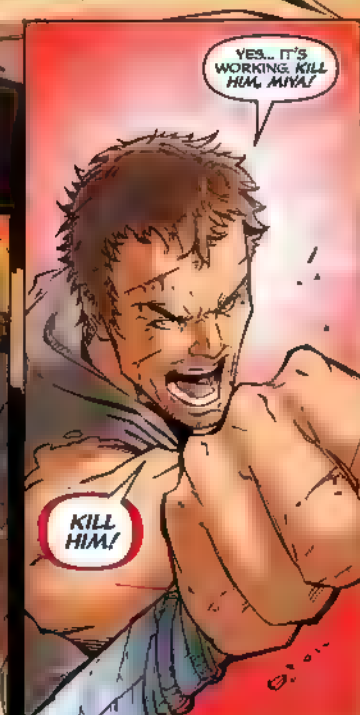


I HAVE SEEN
THIS EXACT
SCENE TIME AND
TIME AGAIN. IT IS A
CYCLE... OF LIFE, IF
THAT MAKES YOU
FEEL BETTER.

THINK OF IT
AS THE CHANGING OF
SEASONS. FROM
SPRING TO FALL TO
WINTER. AND THE
TIME HAS COME FOR
YOUR SEASON TO
END.



NO... NOT
OUR SEASON,
KHAAZ.



FOOL. NONE
OF THIS MATTERS.
DON'T YOU SEE
THAT?

I HAVE
ENDURED FAR
WORSE THAN YOU
COULD POSSIBLY
IMAGINE. I WAS
WANDERING THIS
WORLD AT THE
DAWN OF TIME.

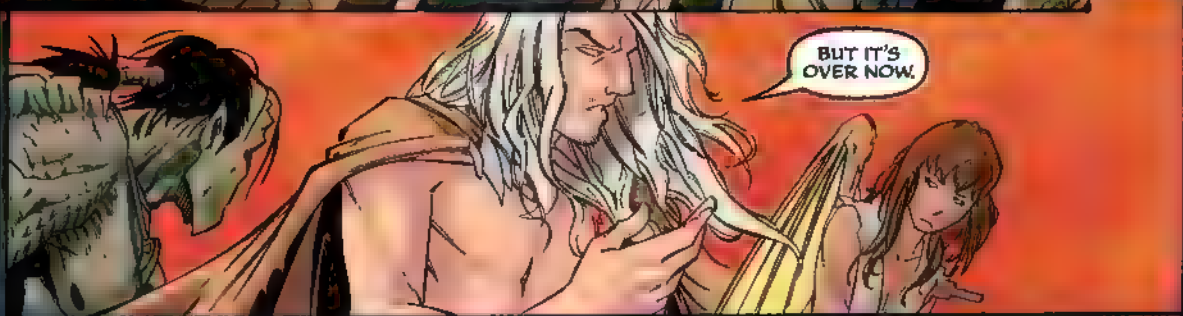
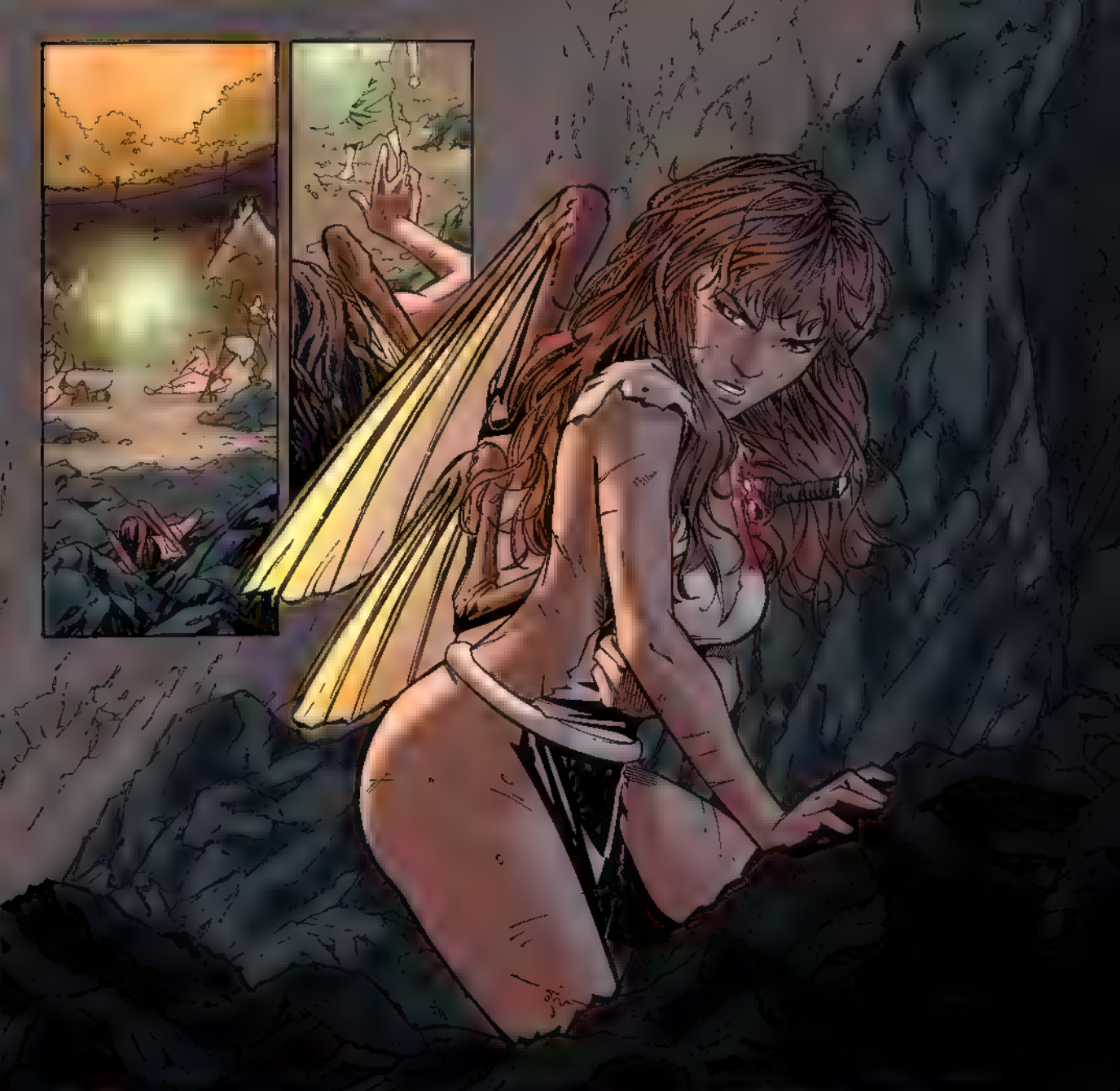
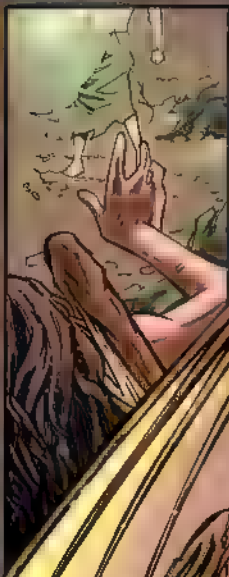
AND I SHALL
CONTINUE
ON...

AAAGGHHH!!

LONG
AFTER YOU
HAVE ALL
DIED

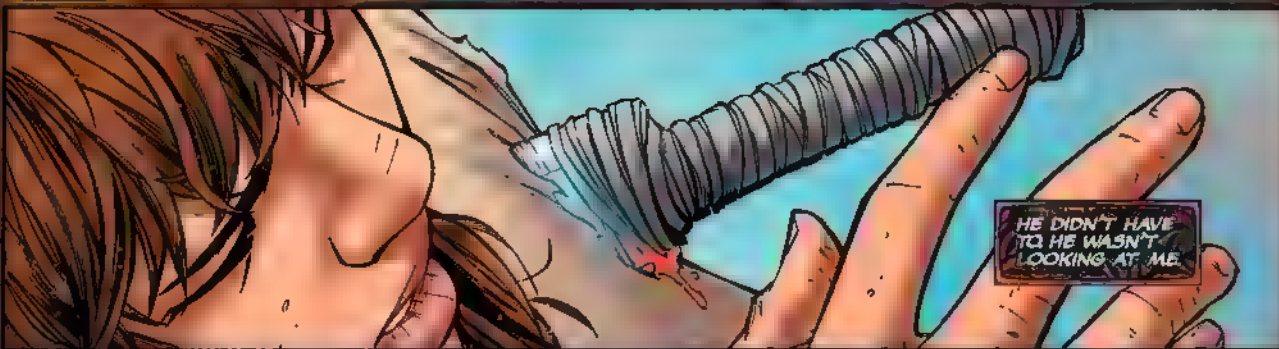




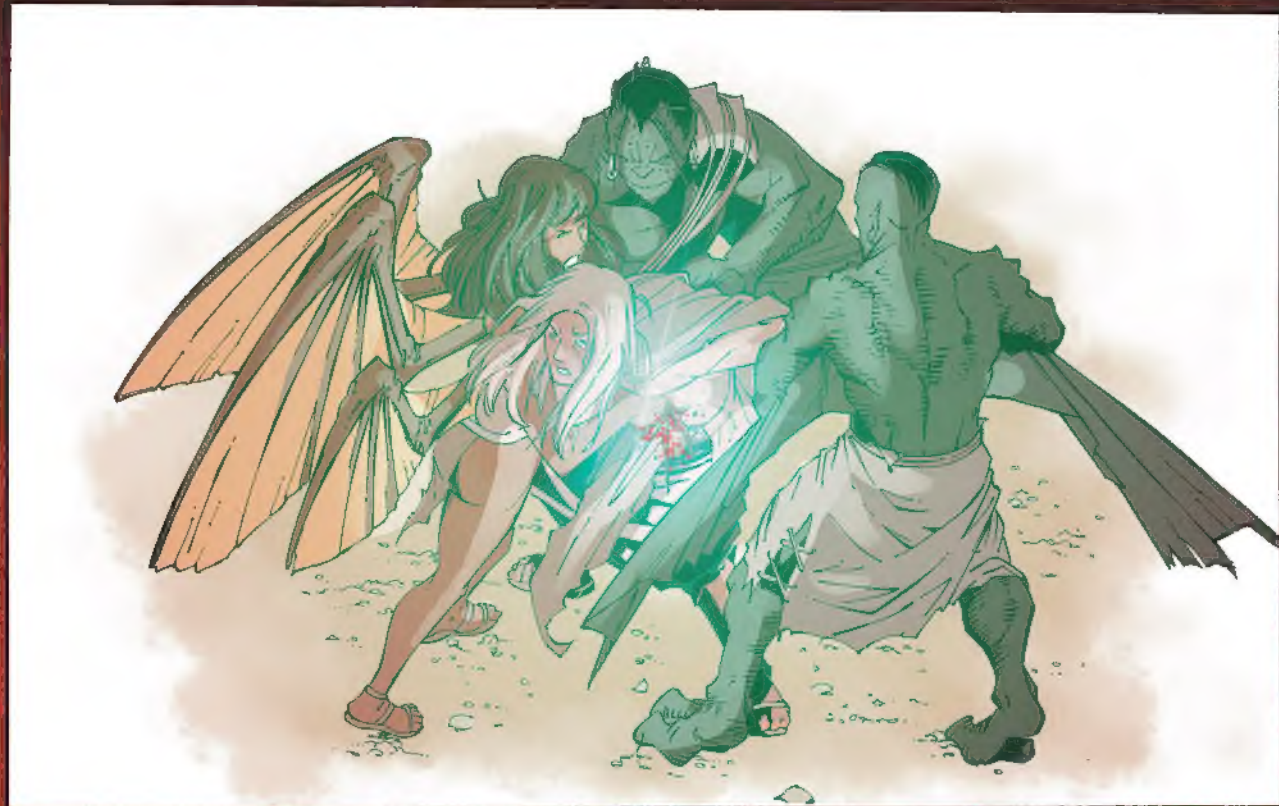
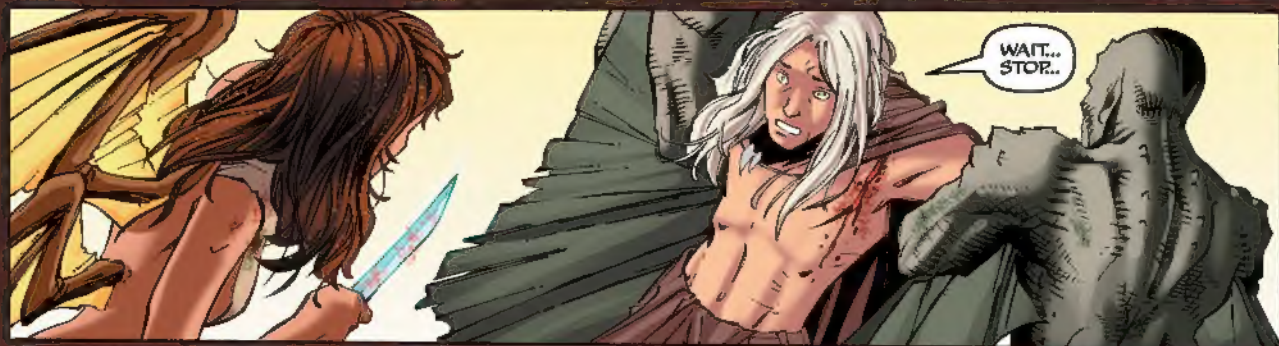
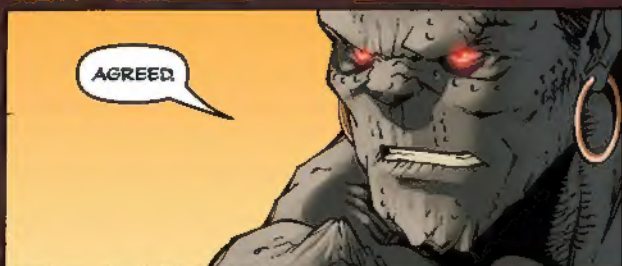
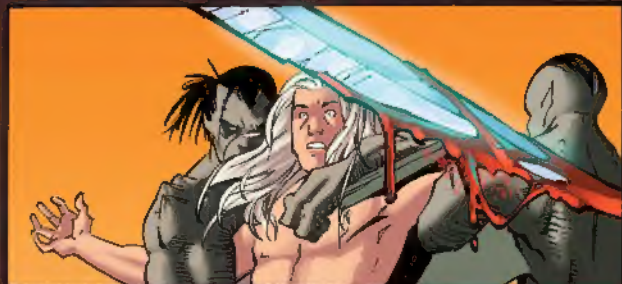




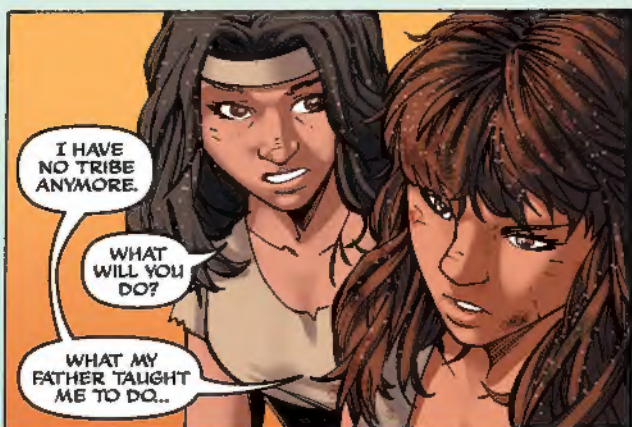
AS SAGUS GLARED MY WAY, HE SAID NOTHING.



HE DIDN'T HAVE TO HE WASN'T LOOKING AT ME.









AS I WALKED BEYOND THE CITY WALLS, THERE WAS A HEAVINESS IN THE AIR AS IF A GREAT SHADOW WAS CAST OVER ALL THE LANDS.

THE MAGIC OF THE WORLD WAS THE LIGHT AND I SENSED THAT IT WAS FADING. I THOUGHT OF KHAAZ'S WORDS AND WONDERED IF HE WAS RIGHT. WAS THE MAGIC AND WORLD GOING TO END WITHOUT HIM?

SEEKA AND THE OTHERS WERE NOW FREE, AND YET THEY CHOSE TO FOLLOW ME INTO THE JUNGLE. I DID NOT ASK TO BECOME A PROVIDER... A LEADER OF OTHERS. BUT THEN AGAIN, MY FATHER HAD NOT EITHER.

IF HE TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO SERVE THAT PURPOSE, THEN I SHOULD BE HONORED TO HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITY.

IF NOT FOR ME, THEN FOR HIM.

 **END.**